

RECOVERY PLAN



Trump comforts storm-ravaged Carolinas with hot dogs, hugs

President Donald Trump visits the Temple Baptist Church, where food and other supplies are being distributed during Hurricane Florence recovery efforts, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018, in New Bern, N.C.

Associated Press

By CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press
NEW BERN, N.C. (AP) — Eager to show heart in a moment of crisis, President

Donald Trump handed out hot dogs, hugs and comforting words in the Carolinas on Wednesday as he surveyed the wreckage left by Hurricane Florence. With residents still recovering from torrential rains that left widespread destruction and injury, Trump sought

to strike a balance between comforter and cheerleader, mindful that he has been criticized in the past for not showing

sufficient empathy in the face of tragedy.

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Federal agency says it lost track of 1,488 migrant children

By GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press

Twice in less than a year, the federal government has lost track of nearly 1,500 migrant children after placing them in the homes of sponsors across the country, federal officials have acknowledged.

The Health and Human Services Department recently told Senate staffers that case managers could not find 1,488 children after they made follow-up calls to check on their safety from April through June. That number represents about 13 percent of all unaccompanied children the administration moved out of shelters and foster homes during that time.

The agency first disclosed that it had lost track of



In this June 20, 2018, file photo, Immigrant children walk in a line outside the Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children a former Job Corps site that now houses them in Homestead, Fla.

Associated Press

1,475 children late last year, as it came under fire at a Senate hearing in April. Lawmakers had asked HHS officials how they had strengthened child protection policies since it came to light that the agency previously had rolled back safeguards meant to keep Central American children from ending up in the hands of human traffickers.

"The fact that HHS, which placed these unaccompanied minors with sponsors, doesn't know the whereabouts of nearly 1,500 of them is very troubling," Republican Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio, the panel's chair, said Wednesday. "Many of these kids are vulnerable to trafficking and abuse, and to not take responsibility for their safety is unacceptable." HHS did not respond to multiple emails seeking comment.

Since October 2014, the federal government has placed more than 150,000 unaccompanied minors with parents or other adult sponsors who are expected to care for the children and help them attend school while they seek legal status in immigration court.

On Tuesday, members of a Senate subcommittee introduced bipartisan legislation aimed at requiring the agency to take responsibility for the care of migrant

children, even when they are no longer in its custody. An Associated Press investigation found in 2016 that more than two dozen unaccompanied children had been sent to homes where they were sexually assaulted, starved or forced to work for little or no pay. At the time, many adult sponsors didn't undergo thorough background checks, government officials rarely visited homes and in some cases had no idea that sponsors had taken in several unrelated children, a possible sign of human trafficking.

Since then, HHS has boosted outreach to at-risk children deemed to need extra protection, and last year offered post-placement services to about one-third of unaccompanied minors, according to the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

But advocates say it is hard to know how many minors may be in dangerous conditions, in part because some disappear before social workers can follow up with them and never show up in court. From April to June, HHS called 11,254 children the agency had placed with sponsors, and found 25 of the children had run away, and 1,488 could not be located, according to the data provided to the subcommittee.

Portman began investigating after a case in his home state of Ohio in which eight Guatemalan teens were placed with human traffickers and forced to work on egg farms under threats of death. Six people have been convicted and sentenced to federal prison for their participation in the trafficking scheme that began in 2013. The legislation comes as the Trump administration faces litigation over its family separation policy at the U.S.-Mexican border, which while it was in effect sent hundreds more children into the HHS system of shelters and foster care. Some of those children since have been reunited with their families, while others have been placed with sponsors. □

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CAROLINAS

Continued from Front

During a packed day, a wind-breaker-clad Trump visited both North and South Carolina, distributed meals at a church, walked amid piles of sodden furniture in damaged neighborhoods, offered hugs and handshakes to residents and discussed the response efforts with local and state officials.

"America grieves with you and our hearts break for you. God bless you," he said during a briefing at a marine base in Havelock, North Carolina. "We will never forget your loss. We will never leave your side. We're with you all the way." The emotional words and comprehensive itinerary stood in contrast with Trump's trip to Puerto Rico last year after Hurricane Maria, when he drew criticism for tossing rolls of paper towels into the crowd. Or his initial visit to Houston after Hurricane Harvey, when he did not meet with any storm victims.

There were still flashes of Trump's outsized persona and unconventional style — he asked about the status of Lake Norman, where he owns a golf club, telling officials, "I can't tell you why, but I love that area." He also joked with a family who had a large yacht they didn't own wash up against their house. "At least you got a nice boat out of the deal," he told them. "What's the law? Maybe it becomes theirs."

And he was caught on camera telling a person to whom he had just handed food to "have a good time." Trump's made his whirlwind tour through the Carolinas five days after the storm, which was blamed for at least 37 deaths in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. North and South Carolina both backed Trump in the 2016 election, and the president largely saw people who were happy to greet him. One man told the president he'd named his dog after Trump.

After a briefing on the recovery effort in North Carolina, Trump helped hand out hot dogs and chips at a Baptist church in New Bern, a riverfront city that experi-

enced severe flooding. The president leaned over and checked in with people as they drove through to pick up food.

"How's the house?" he asked one person. "You take care of yourself," he said.

Trump also praised the volunteers, at one point hugging a young helper and telling his parents, "You did a good job."

Trump walked through a storm-damaged neighborhood where waterlogged sofa cushions, mattresses and downed trees were piled up along streets.

"How's it doing?" the president asked after one woman pointed at a house. He chatted and shook people's hands as he walked along a street strewn with trash, branches and wet furniture. Some people applauded as he went by.

Trump later traveled to Conway, South Carolina, where more flooding is expected still. He toured a neighborhood where a street was already submerged under water.

"Is everybody OK?" he asked those gathered, assuring them it was "going to be OK."

"Lot of money coming from Washington," he promised. At Horry County's emergency operations center, South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster said the storm had likely been the worst disaster in the state's history, but warned it wasn't over yet.

"The rain and the water you see out there now is just the beginning," he said. "The worst is yet to come."

Trump, too, warned that more water was on the way, but assured those gathered that both he and Washington are "with you."

"Now it looks nice, but it's really the calm before the storm," he said.

It was the same message at Trump's first stop in North Carolina, where Gov. Roy Cooper and federal and state officials briefed the president at a Marine Corps air station in Havelock, which sits among areas Florence hit hardest. The governor asked for help "cutting red tape" to get his state the federal assistance it will need to recover.

Cooper said Florence was an "epic" storm and noted

that farmers suffered significant losses and scores of people lost their homes. Some 10,000 people remain in shelters.

"We will be there 100 percent," pledged Trump. "All of the folks from the federal government that are around the table are confirming it."

Cooper, a Democrat, said he'd told the president "over and over again" that the state was "going to need significant resources to recover."

"He promised 100 percent support and we're going to hold them to it," he said of Trump.

Trump spent the run-up to the storm focused on criticism of the federal response to a hurricane that battered Puerto Rico last year, rejecting the official death toll of nearly 3,000 and claiming Democrats manufactured the number to make him "look bad."

When Trump visited San Juan last October after Hurricane Maria, he pumped his fists in the air when he landed. The enduring image of the trip was of Trump at a church lobbing paper towels into the crowd as if shooting baskets. At the time, it seemed to reflect



President Donald Trump visits a house where a boat wash ashore in the backyard while touring a neighborhood impacted by Hurricane Florence, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018, in New Bern, N.C.

Associated Press

Trump's brand of playfulness. Many people in the crowd smiled and raised their phones to record the moment. But critics quickly dubbed it inappropriate for the grim crisis at hand.

Before that, Trump's trip to Texas after Hurricane Harvey generated blowback for his failure to meet with victims of the storm. Four

days later, he returned — and urged people at a Houston shelter to "have a good time." He also cheered on volunteers and emergency workers and handed out hot dogs and potato chips to residents. Some critics said the president's trip took on the tone of a victory lap for successful disaster management. □

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Senators grapple with accusation against Kavanaugh, denial

By **LAURIE KELLMAN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — No-where is gender politics thicker in the election season air than in the mannerly U.S. Senate as it considers what President Donald Trump's choice for the Supreme Court, Brett Kavanaugh, did or didn't do in high school.

Christine Blasey Ford's accusation of sexual assault — and Kavanaugh's staunch denial — has ignited a tense, gender-infused war among the Senate's 100 members, 23 of whom are women.

Whether Kavanaugh and Ford testify under oath, and to what details, has enormous stakes for Trump and the Nov. 6 midterm elections — not to mention American men, women, teenagers, parents, schools and anyone who rises to the top of a profession in the #MeToo era.

A look at how it's playing out in the Senate:

WHERE IT STANDS

Ford says she doesn't want to publicly testify until the FBI adds to Kavanaugh's background check by investigating her allegation. Her lawyers wrote to the Senate Judiciary Committee saying Ford wants to cooperate. But in the days since she publicly accused Kavanaugh of assaulting her at a party more than three decades ago, the lawyers said, she has been the target of "vicious harassment and even death threats." Her family has relocated, they said.

Republicans are rejecting Ford's call for an FBI investigation, putting the onus back on her to decide whether she'll testify anyway. They say she can testify in a private session if she wishes. Chairman

Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, on Wednesday also offered to send his staff to Ford, "at a time and place convenient to her."

Trump, counseled not to

stands.

11 Republicans sit on the committee, opposite 10 Democrats.

Zero: That's how many women sit among the

"If she shows up and makes a credible showing that'll be very interesting. We'll have to make a decision," he told reporters. But he added that Kavanaugh

term elections," Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said in a statement.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Standing up for a fair hearing should not just come down to women, said Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii.

"Guess who is perpetrating all of these kinds of actions? It's the men in this country," Hirono said at a news conference Tuesday. "I just want to say to the men in this country: Just shut up and step up. Do the right thing, for a change."

Wednesday on CNN, she described the Senate's treatment of Ford as "callousness from my colleagues that I am totally appalled by."

"She hardly expected to be revictimized and retraumatized," Hirono said.

REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Ernst is a retired combat veteran who's talked publicly about facing sexual harassment in the military during more than two decades of service, and she's worked in the Senate to combat sex abuse. On Kavanaugh, she said Ford's story is important.

"If she is accusing him of something so egregious, she needs to be heard," Ernst told Radio Iowa on Tuesday.

Hyde-Smith questioned the timing of the revelation by Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California last week that Feinstein had known about the case for weeks and referred it to the FBI. Ford, initially reluctant to go public, did so after reporters got wind of it and started asking questions.

"I have serious reservations regarding the questionable timing and handling of this last-minute allegation," Hyde-Smith said in a statement. □



Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, right, reacts to a question from a reporter on the Senate subway, Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018, as she responds to questions about Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

dismiss or insult Ford — as he has with women who accused him of sexual misconduct — has showered sympathy on his embattled nominee and said he wants to hear from Ford. He also rejected the idea of bringing in the FBI. (Trump, too, has denied all accusations against him.)

KEY FACTOIDS

For now, the ball is the committee's to play, but precedent and some key numbers put the GOP majority in an exquisitely uncomfortable spot.

Majority Republicans, haunted by the panel's 1991 treatment of Anita Hill during Justice Clarence Thomas' confirmation hearings, say the invitation to testify publicly on Monday

panel's Republicans, who will cross-examine Ford. Republicans said late Tuesday they were considering hiring outside attorneys, presumably including women, to question the witnesses.

THE SIX

Of the Senate women, six are Republicans.

They are Sens. Susan Collins of Maine, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, Joni Ernst of Iowa, Deb Fischer of Nebraska, Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia and Cindy Hyde-Smith of Mississippi.

Only Fischer and Hyde-Smith are on the ballot this year.

REPUBLICAN SKEPTICS

A restrained Trump said Wednesday he wants to hear what Ford has to say.

"is such an outstanding man. Very hard for me to imagine that anything happened."

Some Republicans pointed to the decades between the alleged attack and now.

"There are gaps in her memory," the Senate's No. 2 Republican, John Cornyn of Texas, said, referring to details Ford has said she can't remember. "She doesn't know how she got there, when it was and so that would logically be something where she would get questions."

"Requiring an FBI investigation of a 36-year-old allegation (without specific references to time or location) ... is not about finding the truth, but delaying the process until after the mid-



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Judge: U.S. can't deny passport over refusing to pick gender

By KATHLEEN FOODY

DENVER (AP) — U.S. officials cannot deny a passport application from an intersex Colorado resident based solely on a refusal to select male or female for gender, a federal judge said Wednesday.

The U.S. State Department's varied explanations for rejecting the application weren't reasonable, U.S. District Judge R. Brooke Jackson said in his ruling, forcing him to set aside the decision as "arbitrary and capricious."

The ruling is limited, but advocates said they hope it leads to expanded gender choices on federal identification. Dana Zzyym, who was born with ambiguous physical sexual characteristics and identifies as nonbinary in gender, not as male or female, sued in 2015. Zzyym had requested "X" as a gender marker on a passport application, and it was denied.

The judge in 2016 ordered the State Department to

reconsider. Zzyym applied again and refused to select either option provided on the passport application, feeling that it would be untruthful.

The department again denied the application in 2017.

Jackson dismissed the department's explanations for rejecting the passport, including concerns that it would complicate the process of verifying an applicant's identity and determining eligibility based on federal, state and local databases.

The agency can legally reject passport applications for a good reason, but "adherence to a series of internal policies that do not contemplate the existence of intersex people is not good reason," the judge wrote.

The State Department said in a written statement that it was reviewing the decision and coordinating with the Department of Justice on next steps.

The ruling only applies to Zzyym, but Lambda Legal senior attorney Paul Castillo called it a "groundbreaking, first-of-its-kind" challenge to limited gender options on federal identification.

Castillo said advocates hope it will prompt the State Department to edit the passport application and allow people to choose a gender marker other than male or female.

"I'm not going to lie on my passport application, I shouldn't have to, and the judge here, twice, has agreed with me," Zzyym said in a statement released by the LGBT civil rights organization.

Jackson did not specifically order the department to issue a passport to Zzyym in his ruling. But the State Department's attorneys provided no reason for the past denials except Zzyym's refusal to select a gender marker.

Castillo said Zzyym's attorneys "call on the department to promptly issue a



In this July 20, 2016 file photo, Dana Zzyym, of Fort Collins, Colo., talks about the arguments in a hearing on Zzyym's lawsuit requiring people to pick a gender to get a passport outside the U.S. Federal Courthouse in Denver.

Associated Press

passport."

"Dana has been waiting since 2014 to be able to have the ability to travel but wasn't willing to risk lying about who they are in order to secure a passport," he said.

The International Civil Aviation organization, the U.N. agency that sets standards for international travel documents, says gender should

be marked on passports as male, female or "X for unspecified." Several countries issue passports with gender designations other than female or male, including "X" or "O."

A number of U.S. states similarly issue driver's licenses or ID cards with "X" as a choice for gender markers, including California, Oregon and Washington. □

Owner of 3D-printed gun company accused of sex with minor

By RYAN TARINELLI

DALLAS (AP) — The owner of a Texas company that makes untraceable 3D-printed guns is wanted on an arrest warrant tied to an accusation that he had sex with an underage girl and paid her \$500 afterward.

Austin police Cmdr. Troy Officer said Wednesday that the department is working with national and international law

enforcement to locate Cody R. Wilson, who missed a scheduled flight back to the U.S. from Taiwan. Wilson didn't reply to a phone message from The Associated Press seeking comment. Officer reported that Wilson's last known location was in Taipei, Taiwan. He said it's unclear why Wilson went to Taiwan, but he is known to travel extensively. He said before Wilson flew there, a friend

of the 16-year-old girl informed Wilson that police were investigating the accusation that he had sex with the youth.

In a court filing, Detective Shaun Donovan said Wilson had sex with the girl at an Austin hotel last month. A counselor for the teenager reported the accusation to Austin police a week later. He said Wilson met the girl through the website SugarDaddyMeet.com,

where she had created an online profile.

The girl reported she received images of Wilson's genitalia and sent a picture of herself naked, according to the affidavit.

On Aug. 15, they met in the parking lot of an Austin coffee shop before they drove to the hotel. The girl told investigators that Wilson paid her \$500 after they had sex and then dropped her off at a

Whataburger restaurant.

Video surveillance shows Wilson and the youth getting out of a vehicle at the hotel and then exiting an elevator together on the seventh floor, Donovan wrote. The footage shows them returning to the elevator later that night. Hotel records revealed that Wilson registered the same room that the girl reported he had sex with her, the detective wrote. □



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California district latest to modernize 'sexist' dress code

By JOCELYN GECKER

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — The relaxed new dress code at public schools in the small city of Alameda, across the bay from San Francisco, is intentionally specific: Midriff-baring shirts are acceptable attire, so are tank tops with spaghetti straps and other once-banned items like micro-mini skirts and short shorts.

As students settle into the new school term, gone are restrictions on ripped jeans and hoodies in class. If students want to come to school in pajamas, that's OK, too.

The new policy amounts to a sweeping reversal of the modern school dress code and makes Alameda the latest school district in the country to adopt a more permissive policy it says is less sexist.

Students who initiated the change say many of the old rules that barred too much skin disproportionately targeted girls, while language calling such attire "distracting" sent the wrong message.

"If someone is wearing a short shirt and you can see her stomach, it's not her fault that she's distracting other people," said Henry Mills, 14, an incoming freshman at Alameda High School who worked with a committee of middle school students and teacher advisers to revise the policy. "There was language that mainly affected girls, and that wasn't OK."

Dress codes have long been the territory of contention and rebellion, but the reversal in Alameda



In this Sept. 7, 2018 photo, students socialize at Grant High School in Portland, Ore., after school let out.

Associated Press

shows a generational shift that students and teachers say was partly influenced by broader conversations on gender stemming from the #MeToo movement against sexual misconduct and a national resurgence of student activism.

Approved by the school board on a trial basis over summer break, the new dress code is stirring back-to-school discussions about what role schools should have in socializing children. There are sharply critical voices of the new dress code.

Math teacher Marie Hsu said she's all for equity but that the new rules send an unintentional message that it's fine, even appropriate, to "sex it up."

"It's good not to punish girls for being distractions. I fully, fully get that," said Hsu, who teaches at Lincoln Middle School and is an Alameda

resident with two young children. "But I think it's extraordinarily misled."

Alameda mother Paula Walker says she may be "old school," but she didn't mind the bans against revealing clothing.

"They say kids are starting everything younger, and I'm like, well, that's because you're throwing it in their faces," Walker said.

Dress codes and their severity vary widely nationwide. Twenty-four states have policies that give local school districts the power to adopt their own dress codes or uniform policies, according to the Education Commission of the States, a nonprofit that tracks education policy.

Some have statewide policies, like Arkansas, which passed a 2011 law requiring school districts "to prohibit the wearing of clothing that exposes underwear,

buttocks, or the breast of a female."

A Texas high school was recently criticized for a back-to-school video on dress codes that only featured girls. The video shown at Marcus High School in a Dallas suburb showed girls in short shorts getting reprimanded as the song "Bad Girls" by M.I.A. played in the background. Students slammed it as sexist on social media, prompting the principal to apologize, saying the video "absolutely missed the mark."

Alameda's new dress code was modeled after a suggested policy by the Oregon chapter of the National Organization for Women, drafted in 2016 to "update and improve" dress codes, avoid rules that reinforce gender stereotypes and minimize unnecessary discipline or "body shaming." Portland, Oregon's pub-

lic school district adopted a new policy in 2016, followed by Evanston, Illinois, in 2017, both of which incorporated NOW's suggestions. Portland's relaxed dress code is considered a success, said Carol Campbell, principal at Grant High School.

Campbell said students wear appropriate clothing most of the time and it was "a huge relief" that staff could now focus on teaching, rather than necklines and hemlines.

"It's changed the culture of how students view each other," she said. "When we have rules and dress codes that particularly target one group it sounds like we're blaming that group, which always tended to be women." Students in Alameda, Portland and Evanston have freedom to wear mostly anything as long as it includes a bottom, top, shoes, covers private parts and does not contain violent images, hate speech, profanity or pornography. Vague language in the old Alameda policy caused confusion, which led to arbitrary enforcement, students and teachers said. There was, for example, a "three-finger" rule on the width of tank top straps and a ban on shorts and skirts shorter than "mid-thigh" and a rule against "low-cut tank tops."

Girls with more developed bodies often were singled out for discipline ranging from lunch detention, picking up trash on campus, a phone call home or having to change into baggy clothing. □



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Man opens fire at his Wisconsin office, 3 seriously hurt

By TODD RICHMOND and SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press

MIDDLETON, Wis. (AP) —

A heavily armed man opened fire on his co-workers at a Wisconsin software company Wednesday, seriously wounding three people before being fatally shot by police as employees ran from the building or hid inside, according to investigators.

Middleton Police Chief Chuck Foulke said officers shot the man within 8 minutes of receiving calls about an active shooter at WTS Paradigm. Foulke said the man was armed with a semi-automatic pistol and extra ammunition, and fired at officers before he was shot.

Foulke said three people were seriously injured during the attack, while a fourth person was grazed by a bullet.

"I think a lot less people were injured or killed because police officers went in and neutralized the shooter," Foulke said.

The police chief said the

motivation behind the attack was unclear and investigators didn't yet know whether the gunman targeted his victims. He didn't release the suspect's name but said he was an employee of WTS Paradigm and lived in nearby Madison.

Foulke said the investigation was ongoing but noted: "We have reason to believe the suspect was heavily armed with a lot of extra ammunition, a lot of extra magazines."

Judy Lahmers, a business analyst at WTS Paradigm, said she was working at her desk when she heard what sounded "like somebody was dropping boards on the ground, really loud." Lahmers said she ran out of the building and hid behind a car.

She said the building's glass entrance door was shattered.

"I'm not looking back, I'm running as fast as I can. You just wonder, 'Do you hide or do you run?'" she told The Associated Press.

She said she knew one co-worker had been grazed



A woman is escorted from the scene of a shooting at a software company in Middleton, Wis., Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

by a bullet but was OK. She didn't have any other information about the shooting but said it was "totally unexpected. We're all software people. We have a good group." University Hospital in Madison confirmed Wednesday afternoon that it was still treating three victims from the shooting, saying one was in critical condition and two were in serious condition.

Police conducted a secondary search of the office building after the shooting to ensure there were no more victims or suspects — and officers discovered

some people still hiding in the building, which also houses Esker Software.

Gabe Geib, a customer advocate at Esker Software, said he was working at his desk when he heard what "sounded like claps." He said he then saw people running away from the building at "full sprint."

"We knew at that point that something was going down. A ton of people were running across the street right in front of us," he said.

Geib said he and his colleagues were still huddled in their cafeteria, away

from windows, more than an hour after the shooting. Jeff Greene, who also works at Esker, said police told those gathered in the cafeteria to go a nearby hotel to make a statement about what they saw.

Three yellow school buses full of more than 100 people, including witnesses, were unloaded at a hotel about 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the office building. Some people hugged as they were reunited with loved ones. Others stopped to pet a dog that had been brought by someone picking up a worker. □

Biggest wildfire on record in California is fully contained

LAKEPORT, Calif. (AP) — The U.S. Forest Service says the largest wildfire on record in California is 100 percent contained. The agency made the announcement Wednesday about the so-called Mendocino Complex of twin fires that erupted in July.

The fires north of San Francisco killed a firefighter, destroyed 157 homes and scorched 720 square miles (1,865 square kilometers). That's an area more than twice the size of New York City.

Officials say 460 firefighters remain in the area, work-

ing to prevent erosion and monitoring spots that are still burning.

The blazes prompted the evacuation of thousands of people in Mendocino, Lake, Colusa and Glenn counties. Authorities are still investigating what started the fires. □



In this Aug. 7, 2018 file photo, firefighters monitor a backfire while battling the Ranch Fire, part of the Mendocino Complex Fire near Ladoga, Calif.

Britain appeals for EU Brexit compromise over Irish border

By LORNE COOK

JILL LAWLESS

SALZBURG, Austria (AP) — British Prime Minister Theresa May on Wednesday appealed to the European Union to soften its stance in Brexit negotiations, saying that only her government has a workable plan to prevent a hard border between Northern Ireland in the U.K. and EU member state Ireland.

But despite May's appeal at an EU summit in Austria, EU Council President Donald Tusk insisted that parts of her offer are still not satisfactory more than 18 months into the negotiations and must change to keep alive hopes of concluding a Brexit deal in coming weeks.

Britain leaves the EU at midnight on March 29 — the first time a country has ever left the world's biggest trading bloc — but solutions to outstanding Brexit issues must be found by November so parliaments have time to ratify any accord. May told reporters that her offer to solve the border riddle — the biggest obstacle to a deal — was "the



EU chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier, center, arrives at the informal EU summit in Salzburg, Austria, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

only credible and negotiable plan on the table that delivers no hard border in Northern Ireland and also delivers on the vote of the British people" to leave the EU.

"If we are going to achieve a successful conclusion then, just as the U.K. has evolved its position, the EU will need to evolve its position too," she said.

Tusk, though, highlighted shortfalls in Britain's position on avoiding a hard border, as well as on economic cooperation, saying that "the U.K.'s proposals will need to be reworked and further negotiated."

He ramped up pressure on May — already struggling to keep her job and control in-fighting within her Conservative Party — by saying

that time was fast running out. "Every day that is left we must use for talks," Tusk said. He said he wants a deal finalized this autumn, and urged leaders to hold another summit in mid-November as part of a roadmap to get the job done. Right from the start, both sides pledged to ensure there's no hard border around Northern Ireland

but they disagree on how to get there.

The EU has offered to effectively keep Northern Ireland in its customs union. EU chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier says that could be done by checking goods destined for Northern Ireland at companies and markets within the U.K. But London says this would undermine the U.K. by treating Northern Ireland differently from the rest of the country. May's latest plan — the so-called Chequers proposals — envisions the whole U.K., including Northern Ireland, remaining in the European single market for goods only, thereby eliminating the need for a hard border. "We have always recognized that there are unique circumstances that apply in Northern Ireland," May said. "But what we cannot accept is seeing Northern Ireland carved away from the U.K. customs territory because regardless of where the checks would be, what that would mean would be that it would be a challenge to our constitutional and economic integrity." □

Ex-aide is star witness of panel probing French crisis

By ELAINE GANLEY

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — A former security aide of French President Emmanuel Macron who was videotaped beating a protester apologized Wednesday for insulting a Senate commission as "little people" and calling its chief a "little marquis."

Alexandre Benalla was the star witness of a Senate commission investigating issues triggered by the May Day march at which the former aide was videotaped beating a protester. Benalla's blows to a protester at the march, which had descended into violence, led to Macron's most difficult period in office since he became president in May 2017.

"I have a deep respect for the Senate," Benalla told the commission.

The ex-aide said he had



Former President Macron's security aide Alexandre Benalla appears before the French Senate Laws Commission prior to his hearing, in Paris, France, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

overreacted in a radio interview last week when he insulted the panel, because he felt some were "using the institutions of our country for political and media ends."

"I've been raised in the respect of these institutions."

The commission, which has

taken testimony from ministers, generals and other ranking officials, is trying to understand the nature of Benalla's job at the presidential Elysee Palace and why he benefited from numerous perks, including permission to carry a gun. It is also trying to uncover

possible dysfunctions in Macron's security detail.

Preliminary charges, including being involved in group violence, have been filed against Benalla, 27, and as a result questions about his actions on May Day are off-limits.

Some members of Macron's centrist party have protested Benalla's appearance, with party chief Christophe Castaner suggesting at one point that it was part of a ploy to "bring down the president."

Benalla's apology led off nearly two-and-a-half hours of grilling during which he said he carried a gun for his personal protection — not the president's — and insisted he was never Macron's bodyguard.

Benalla was identified in late July as one of two men seen in an online video brutally roughing up a protest-

er at the violent May Day march even though he was present as an observer.

"I am not a thug ... a little ruffian," Benalla said in reference to speculation that he was a hot-tempered man lacking the status of others at the presidential Elysee Palace.

He was fired only when the affair became a political scandal and Macron is reorganizing the Elysee to address alleged dysfunctions. The belated firing of Benalla, and an initial light punishment, fed questions about whether the presidency under Macron had a hidden side that answered to no one with Benalla playing a critical role.

Benalla stressed that he was never Macron's bodyguard, saying his job was helping to orchestrate presidential outings, "a sort of conductor." □



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Pakistan's ex-PM Sharif freed after court suspends sentence

By ZARAR KHAN
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, his daughter and son-in-law were released from prison Wednesday after a court suspended their sentences and granted them bail pending their appeals hearings.

The Islamabad High Court made the decision after the Sharifs petitioned to appeal their sentences, which were handed down by an anti-graft tribunal earlier this year in a corruption case against them. The three were released from a prison in the garrison city of Rawalpindi.

The development is the latest twist in a series of scandals involving the former prime minister, beginning with his ouster from office last year, to several corruption cases and trials he still faces.

When the anti-graft tribunal first convicted and sentenced Sharif on July 6, he was in London with his daughter, visiting his critically ill wife. The father and daughter returned home a



A supporter of former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif holds his picture and makes a victory sign after a court ruling, outside the Islamabad High Court in Islamabad, Pakistan, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

week later and were taken to prison to serve their sentences.

Sharif's party, the Pakistan Muslim League, meanwhile, lost in parliamentary elections later in July and has now taken on the mantle of opposition party to new Prime Minister Imran Khan's government.

In Wednesday's decision,

the two-judge panel headed by Justice Athar Minalah ordered that Sharif, his daughter Maryam Nawaz and son-in-law Mohammad Safdar, be released once they each post a bond of half a million rupees, or about \$4,000.

In the evening, the three were released from the prison, where many party

leaders and a large crowd of supporters gathered to receive them, said Sen. Mushahidullah Khan, a close aide to Sharif. Khan said Sharif and relatives were escorted to the airport amid tight security. From there, they were to fly to the eastern city of Lahore. Khan said Sharif and his daughter mourned the

loss of Kulsoom Nawaz, Sharif's wife who died after a long battle with cancer while they were in prison.

"I thought I would go straight to mother but she is no more," Khan quoted Nawaz as saying.

Television footage showed a security vehicle driving the Sharifs through a massive crowd of supporters, some showering rose petals on the vehicle while others waved party flags and chanted slogans. Later, they arrived at the family's estate in the Lahore suburbs to a warm reception by supporters.

Sharif was temporarily released earlier this month to attend his wife's funeral.

Prosecutors in the case, the National Accountability Bureau, said they would appeal Wednesday's ruling and take the case against Sharif to the country's Supreme Court.

Following the judges' decision on Sharif and his family, supporters rushed to the court in jubilation, chanting pro-Sharif slogans and waving banners and posters of the ex-premier. □

Police break up Muslim gatherings in Indian-held Kashmir

Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — Police in Indian-controlled Kashmir fired tear gas and used batons on Wednesday to break up religious processions marking the Muslim month of Muharram. Authorities imposed a curfew in Lalchowk, the commercial hub of disputed Kashmir's main city of Srinagar, fearing that the religious processions could morph into anti-India protests.

Clashes erupted when police attempted to stop groups of Muslims who

were trying to break the curfew and hold processions at several places in the city.

Muharram, one of the most important holy days for Shiite Muslims, marks the death of Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Imam Hussein, in the battle of Karbala on Ashura. Police detained over a hundred mourners, who were expected to be released later in the day. Indian authorities "provide state facilities and protection to facilitate the annual Hindu pilgrimage in Kashmir but ban our traditional

religious processions," said Hakim Adil, a participant in Wednesday's processions. Officials say the processions are only banned in Srinagar's main commercial hub to avoid a "law and order situation," a euphemism for anti-India protests.

Residents of Indian-controlled Kashmir have often defied bans on large public gatherings since the outbreak of an armed insurgency in 1989 demanding the Himalayan region's independence from India, or its merger with neighboring Pakistan. □



Kashmiri Shiite Muslims shout slogans as they clash with Indian policemen during a Muharram procession in Srinagar, India, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

Ethiopia's stunning reforms now challenged by deadly unrest

By ELIAS MESERET
Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)

— Ethiopia's stunning political reforms are now threatened by long-standing ethnic tensions that have roared back to life since a young prime minister took power just five months ago and promised greater freedoms.

While exiled groups once banned as terror organizations are welcomed home to join political dialogue, deadly violence erupts on the fringes of celebrations. On Saturday, tens of thousands of people gathered peacefully in Addis Ababa's Meskel Square to cheer one group's return. Two days later, police fired tear gas there to disperse people protesting killings blamed by some on youth from the same ethnicity.

Suddenly, the government of 42-year-old Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed appears to be reaching for security tactics whose unpopularity helped to bring down the previous government, while some Ethiopians who cheered Abiy's reforms now accuse him of being soft on the unrest that poses his biggest challenge so far.

The internet winked off this week across the capital, a once-common act to control dissenting voices. The National Security Council has vowed "all necessary measures" against those spreading anarchy, the state-affiliated Fana Broadcasting Corporate reported.

Some have even called for the return of the state of emergency that Abiy lifted in one of his first acts in office.

The prime minister himself, who shocked the country with a dizzying series of reforms that included freeing imprisoned opposition figures and vowing free and fair elections in 2020, has made warning sounds against the unrest.

"There's nothing more shameful than a group of people committing these types of crimes against their fellow citizens," Abiy said Tuesday while visiting a camp for those displaced



Thousands of protestors from the capital and those displaced by ethnic-based violence over the weekend in Burayu, demonstrate to demand justice from the government in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Monday, Sept. 17, 2018.

Associated Press

by the latest violence.

Stability is crucial in a country whose fast-growing economy, 100 million-strong population and security ties make it the powerhouse of the turbulent but strategic Horn of Africa region.

Ethnic-based conflicts mainly over scarce resources are common in Ethiopia, which is home to more than 80 ethnic groups, but now the communal violence is spiraling at a scale that alarms many.

"If this trend continues, I fear a time will come soon when Ethiopians yearn for the old dictatorial times," Mussie Tefera, a university student, told The Associated Press.

Ethiopia since 1991 has been led by a ruling coalition and allied parties that hold every seat in Parliament and for years were accused by human rights groups of suppressing critical voices. That grip on power slipped after anti-government protests that

began in late 2015 in the Oromia and Amhara regions, home of the country's two largest ethnic groups.

Abiy's arrival in power was a surprise. He is the first prime minister from Ethiopia's largest ethnic group, the Oromo. As the son of a Muslim father and Orthodox Christian mother who converted to Islam he has spoken out for tolerance. On an exuberant tour of the United States that drew large crowds, he spoke to Ethiopian communities and invited emotional exiles long wary of the government to return.

His appeals to peace and openness, however, have not healed long-standing ethnic fractures between groups such as the Oromo and the Somalis. Some disputes have worsened. The number of the country's internally displaced people has reached 2.8 million, up from 1.6 million at the beginning of the year, according to the United Na-

tions.

For some, the surge in unrest comes with the recent shifts in power.

"Local cadres and officials are instigating this violence for a petty political gain," Ethiopia's disaster prevention chief, Mitiku Kassa, told The Associated Press after fighting between the Oromo and others in the Gedeo and West Guji zones.

Over the weekend, the U.S. Embassy was among those issuing safety warnings amid the violence on the outskirts of the capital as many Ethiopians expressed outrage over the alleged targeting of people based on ethnic identity. More than 20 people were killed. "We demand justice," some protesters chanted as they passed by the prime minister's office on Monday en route to Meskel Square. By the end of the day, mobile internet service across Addis Ababa was blocked as citizens and Amnesty International pointed out hate

speech against non-Oromo groups on social media. Internet service returned on Wednesday.

While some accuse "paid agents" of trying to paint a bad image of Oromo youth emboldened by Abiy's rise to power, others suggest some unrest is being orchestrated by groups in the ruling coalition that lost power when he took office. Any internal frictions could be exposed when the ruling coalition holds its congress early next month, when it is expected to take steps to implement Abiy's whirlwind political and economic reforms.

"In a system where party and state have long been indistinguishable, the (coalition's) fragmentation would be a dangerous thing," Michael Woldemariam, assistant professor of international relations at Boston University, wrote this month in Foreign Affairs.

Ethiopians have long expressed grievances over the country's federal structure that is largely based on ethnic lines and has been held together by the ruling coalition and its security forces.

"If the federal structure is implemented properly, it is fine," said Berhanu Nega, whose Patriotic Ginbot 7 opposition group had been listed by Ethiopia as a terror group alongside the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab before being welcomed home from exile by the new government. "But what we have now here is a structure based mainly on ethnic identities and hence creating all these problems."

Abiy's administration is failing to guarantee law and order, said Awol Kassim Allo, a lecturer in law at Keele University School of Law in Britain.

"At this defining moment for this country and its people, the state needs a commander-in-chief that stirs the ship out of the storm," he said. "If we fail to defend this moment of ours and support this understandably challenging transition, we will all lose a great deal." □

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Kim agrees to dismantle main nuke site if US takes steps too

By ERIC TALMADGE

FOSTER KLUG

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) —

The leaders of North and South Korea announced a wide range of agreements Wednesday which they said were a major step toward peace on the Korean Peninsula. But the premier pledge on denuclearization contained a big condition, with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un stating he'd permanently dismantle his main nuclear complex only if the United States takes unspecified corresponding measures.

Compared to the vague language of their two summits earlier this year, Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed in their second day of meetings to an ambitious program meant to tackle soaring tensions last year that had many fearing war as the North tested a string of increasingly powerful weapons.

Kim promised to accept international inspectors to monitor the closing of a key missile test site and launch pad and to visit Seoul soon, and both leaders vowed to work together to try to host the Summer Olympics in 2032.

But while containing several tantalizing offers, their joint statement appeared to fall short of the major steps many in Washington have been looking for — such as a commitment by Kim to provide a list of North Korea's nuclear facilities, a solid step-by-step timeline for closing them down, or an agreement to allow international inspectors to assess progress or discover violations.



South Korean President Moon Jae-in, left, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un shake hands after signing the documents at the Paekhwawon State Guesthouse in Pyongyang, North Korea, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

It also was unclear what "corresponding steps" North Korea wants from the U.S. to dismantle its nuclear site. The question is whether it will be enough for U.S. President Donald Trump to pick up where Moon has left off. Trump told reporters Wednesday that the outcome of the summit was "very good news" and that "we're making tremendous progress" with North Korea. He didn't indicate in his brief remarks whether the U.S. would be willing to take further steps to encourage North Korean action on denuclearization.

Declaring they had made a major step toward peace, Moon and Kim stood side by side as they announced their joint statement to a group of North and South Korean reporters after a closed-door meeting Wednesday morning. They

took no questions.

"We have agreed to make the Korean Peninsula a land of peace that is free from nuclear weapons and nuclear threat," Kim said at the guesthouse where Moon is staying. "The road to our future will not always be smooth and we may face challenges and trials we can't anticipate. But we aren't afraid of headwinds because our strength will grow as we overcome each trial based on the strength of our nation."

Kim and Moon earlier smiled and chatted as they walked down a hallway and into a meeting room to finalize the joint statement, which also said that the leaders would push for a Korean Peninsula without nuclear weapons and to "eliminate all the danger of war." Moon and Kim planned to visit a volcano

sacred to the North on Thursday, the last day of Moon's visit.

This week's summit comes as Moon is under increasing pressure from Washington to find a path forward in efforts to get Kim to completely — and unilaterally — abandon his nuclear arsenal.

Trump has maintained that he and Kim have a solid relationship, and both leaders have expressed interest in a follow-up summit to their meeting in June in Singapore. North Korea has been demanding a declaration formally ending the Korean War, which was stopped in 1953 by a cease-fire, but neither leader mentioned it Wednesday as they read the joint statement.

In the meantime, however, Moon and Kim made concrete moves of their own to reduce tensions on their

border.

According to a statement signed by the countries' defense chiefs, the two Koreas agreed to establish buffer zones along their land and sea borders to reduce military tensions and prevent accidental clashes. They also agreed to withdraw 11 guard posts from the Demilitarized Zone by December and to establish a no-fly zone above the military demarcation line that bisects the two Koreas that will apply to planes, helicopters and drones.

Though not directly linked to security, the leaders' announcement that they would seek a joint Summer Olympics was a significant move in terms of easing tensions and building trust. It also flows from the North's decision to participate in the Pyeongchang Winter Games in February, which was regarded as a success for both sides.

Other agreements aimed at removing some long-standing irritants from their relations, such as allowing more contact between families divided by the Korean War. Moon also appeared to be making good on his proposals to help build up the North's infrastructure and open cross-border rail links.

Unlike Trump's initial tweets praising the summit, the news brought a quick and negative response from Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, who tweeted that he was concerned the visit would undermine efforts by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley to impose "maximum pressure" on the North. □

Puerto Rico dialysis patients fear death 1 year after Maria

By DANICA COTO

VIEQUES, Puerto Rico (AP)

— As weeks turned into months, the seats of the small plane began to empty out.

In the beginning, 15 passengers flew from Vieques to the Puerto Rican mainland — refugees from Hurricane Maria. The storm had ruined the only dialysis center on this tiny island, their home; without treatment, the kidney patients would die.

But the thrice-weekly trips have taken a toll on these frail patients. Five have died in this past year from causes ranging from heart failure to cancer, but advocates insist that the very flights that keep the patients alive have hastened their deaths.

The mortality rate is "a high number," said Angela Diaz, director of the nonprofit Renal Council of Puerto Rico. "We obviously cannot dismiss the fact that these are not appropriate conditions. It's vital that (the government) take action as soon as possible. ... As much as they want to avoid the topic, we have to talk about how we're still doing this one year after Maria."

As dire as the situation may be, it could get worse. A mobile unit, purchased by federal officials to provide dialysis on Vieques, is stuck in California; the Renal Council, which is paying for the dialysis flights, says it will run out of money to do so by month's end.

"If they take away our flights, we will end up dying," said Elias Salgado, a 56-year-old renal patient who is diabetic and suffers from high blood pressure. "There are not many of us left."

The Vieques dialysis center was located in the island's only medical clinic, which officials declared contaminated and ordered it demolished.

At first, the Federal Emergency Management Agency assumed responsibility, then nonprofits including ViequesLove and Americares. Since March, the Renal Council has been



In this Sept. 8, 2018 photo, paramedics wheel 42-year-old dialysis patient Sandra Medina out to the runway to be transferred to a plane at the airport in Vieques, to be flown to Ceiba, then transported by ambulance to the Fresenius dialysis treatment clinic in Humacao, Puerto Rico.

Associated Press

paying for the flights, which take just 20 minutes. But the journey is far longer.

The patients wake up before dawn, wait at the airport for the plane to arrive, clamber aboard and then, once they reach the mainland, wait for transportation to the clinic. There, they sit for four hours as their blood flows through a filter and returns cleansed of toxins. Then they repeat the same routine to get home, arriving about 12 hours after they started their day.

"It's exhausting," Salgado said.

"You don't get used to this," chimed in Edwin Alvarado, a 59-year-old dialysis patient who also has high blood pressure and had open heart surgery five months after Maria.

A paramedic took Alvarado's blood pressure on a recent Saturday before the flight: "It's high," the paramedic warned, "180 over 110."

Alvarado shrugged. Like Salgado, he'd love to move to the U.S. mainland

and live close to a dialysis clinic, but he has nowhere to stay and cannot afford to leave Vieques and find somewhere new to live.

Salgado has another reason to stay: He's on Puerto Rico's transplant list.

"I could be called at any moment," he said.

Both men cheered up as a third dialysis patient, Leyla Rivera, strolled into the airport and lobbed small packets of vanilla cream cookies at each of them. She sat down with a sigh.

At 45, she is one of the youngest patients on the flight, and even she struggles to find the energy.

"Sometimes you come out of treatment dizzy, vomiting," said Rivera, who is seeking a spot on the transplant list. The mother of an autistic child, she is forced to skip two days of work every week because of the flights.

Before 7:30 a.m., the plane takes off. Less than an hour later, an ambulance with flashing lights pulled up to the airport. Inside

after running a marathon.

"Eventually those patients, who already are fragile, will keep worsening," he said. A year of this, he said, was "unacceptable."

Survivors of those who have died over the past year acknowledge that their loved ones were very sick, but they believe they need not have perished.

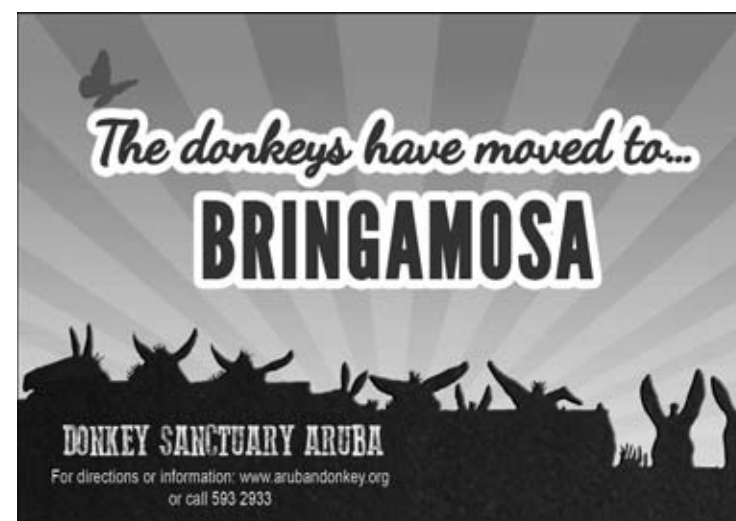
Hector Serrano, 57, was co-pastor of a Vieques church. He died in mid-August of cancer and other ailments. Said his sister, Magali Rivera: "It's a crime what they're doing to these renal patients. ... He (Hector) would have been by our side for longer."

Peter Quinones, spokesman for the Puerto Rican health secretary, Dr. Rafael Rodríguez Mercado, did not respond to several requests for comment on why Vieques still has no dialysis center. Or why the department has not paid to have the \$3 million mobile clinic FEMA purchased delivered to Vieques. Legislators in Puerto Rico have pledged that the clinic will soon arrive, although they have not said when.

Daisy Cruz, deputy mayor of Vieques, said she is in constant communication with FEMA but receives limited answers from local health authorities.

Meanwhile, money is running out to pay for those flights.

"Where is the conscience? Where is the humanity?" Cruz asked, tearing up. "It's always, 'We don't have the money, we don't have the money, we don't have the money.' But they're putting at risk lives that we could prolong." □



LOCAL



Impact Cafe: 'Speak Up For The Future Against Abuse'

ORANJESTAD — Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation will be organizing an event called "Impact Cafe: 'Speak up for the future against abuse'" for youngsters between 14-to-20 years old, in order to bring awareness about abuse. The event will be directed by the Aruba Youth Impact platform, which is a part of the foundation.

Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation is a non-profit educational foundation which was founded with the ideal to inspire and empower young people to become authentic heart-centered leaders, who have discovered their destiny and purpose in life and who are committed to changing the world in a positive matter. Their ultimate goal is to assist young people in becoming aware, high-integrity and heart-centered leaders in their communities and in the world. Together with the Aruba Youth Platform they will be hosting the next event for the Impact Café.

Impact Café is a social gathering where youth are able to bring their perspective forward based on different topics that are important to them. Impact Café is based on the model of "World Café" which emphasizes the importance of conversation in order to reach solutions and improve situations that happen in our community. In July they organized 3 gatherings with topics regarding children's right for education, protection and health. During these sessions abuse was also an important issue and they shared what they think might be solutions to start working on to prevent it. Abuse is a topic that recently has risen more and more in our community, but it's an epidemic which many go through but prefer to keep silent while being a victim of physical, emotional, negligence, sexual and verbal abuse.

Impact Cafe: 'Speak Up For The Future Against Abuse' will take place on Wednesday September 26th, 2018 at Teresita Center in San Nicolas from 2:30 PM till 5 PM. Participation is free. Snacks and refreshments will be available.

A special invitation is extended to the youth to let your voice resound and let's work together towards preventing abuse in Aruba. Impact Café is co-financed by CEDE Aruba and receives support from Futura Lab and National SDG Commission. The goal of Aruba Youth Impact is to get the youth involved to be active members in the community by taking action, sharing ideas and experiences and towards working together initiating changes and make an impact in the community. More information can be found on their Facebook page Aruba Youth Impact. □





Creative Islander

Column by:

By Thaïs G. Franken

Cultural & Creative Industries in a Nutshell, or not?

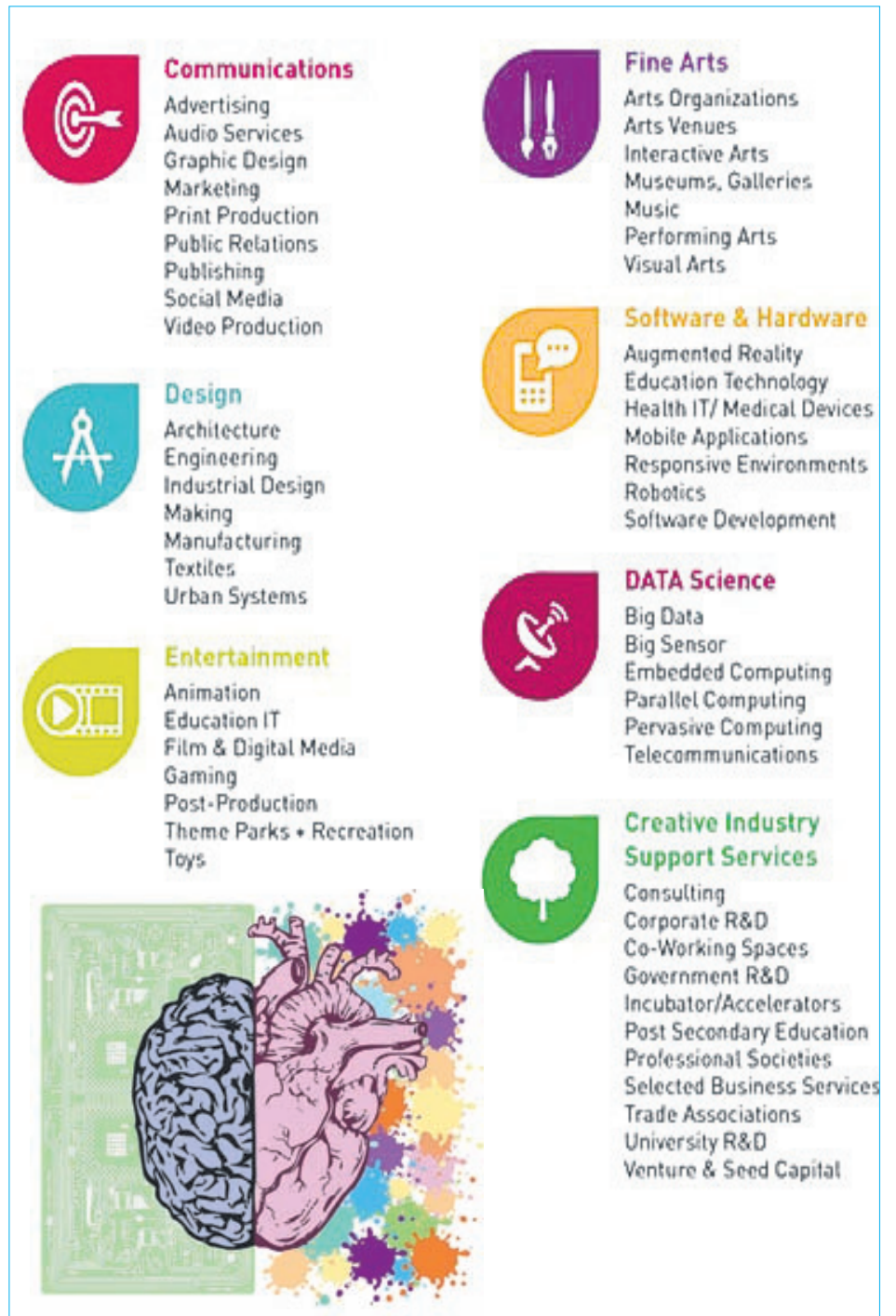
Maastricht – Putting aside all prerogatives of Aruban cultural developments and stigmas of creating a new industry in the arts, the first question that comes up for most people is; what exactly is a cultural and creative industry (CCI)? Aruba like many countries around the world is filled with cultural richness.

The general notion of a holistic industry consisting of creative niche markets is a contemporary framework. Today we will revise the exact definition of a CCI and how it has evolved over time. Also, critically exploring the reasons why the Aruban CCI should be defined. The historical context and conceptual evolvement of the CCI framework began in the late 1940s in Germany with the cultural industries framework. This is when the cultural form of industry was first documented. However, it was not until 1970s when culture became a positive and popular concept in policy making. Different countries such as the United Kingdom took the opportunity to incorporate the CCI in the general economic, cultural and social policy schemes.

Internationally, the use of the term CCI is the same, while how countries define their CCI may differ. So, Aruba's construction of a CCI is unique throughout all sectors. In general, CCI refers to sectors of organized activity whose principal purpose is the production, reproduction, promotion, distribution and/or commercialization of goods, services and activities of a cultural, creative, artistic or heritage-related nature. These sectors include for example; the visual arts, performing arts, television broadcasting, radio, software, publishing, photography, multi-media, newspapers, magazines, museums, monuments, music industry, libraries and archives, gastronomy, film industry, design, fashion, gaming, digital media, arts & craft, books, architecture and advertising.

As described, the CCI is a very diverse and inclusive industry. Other concepts that came out of the CCI are creative entrepreneurship, creative tourism, creative cities, creative hubs and the creative economy, now known as the orange economy within the Latin America and Caribbean region. In the following weeks, we will look at these concepts and see how the interplay with the CCI could look like in the Aruban society. If we pull some layers of this information and we try to understand how the human body is designed and how receptive it is to produce creativity, you will notice that in some way creativity and culture can be an automatic output of our lives. The human brain is comprised by two separate parts.

The biggest thing to comprehend is that being dominant in either the left or right side will mostly indicate how you process information. This was discovered in the 60s by psych biologist and Nobel Prize winner Roger W. Sperry. The general theory is that people are either left-brained or right-brained. If you're mostly analytical and methodical in your thinking, you're said to be left-brained. If you tend to be more creative or artistic, you're thought to be right-brained. So now, back to CCI, let's look at some leading countries whom have invested in developing a CCI.



Couple leading countries that have put the CCI on the map include Australia and the United Kingdom.

Both have incorporated the CCI within their economic, cultural and social spheres to create not only value but a sense of inclusion, considering their multi-cultural communities. Aruba, for one is not only rich in culture from numerous ethnic backgrounds, but has the obligation to provide opportunities that outlook just economic factors. However, how do you implement a CCI if the definition is not clear or simply does not exist. The earliest mention of the CCI by the Aruban government was formally expressed in 2016. Now two years later, what does the Aruban CCI look like? Does it represent the Aruban cultural dynamics? Could you identify with it? Putting aside the intrinsic meaning of the CCI definition, Aruba has the task to now define exactly what the CCI would look like.

Continued on Page 15

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Continued from Page 14

Some countries have chosen a very holistic approach for the CCI, such as the UK. Other countries, like the Netherlands, chose to build a solid reputation of 4 niche markets which are gaming, fashion, interior design and architecture. Looking at all the possible sectors that could be considered to fit within the

CCI, it seems to be a difficult, almost impossible task to select what to exclude or include. For Aruba, this will not be different, because in the end, the question will be: is it quality over quantity or quantity over quality? Another possibility is to create sub categories within the sectors, enabling a clustering process that will ensure a good structure, while minimizing exclusion. The reason we want to minimize inclusion, especially for a multi-cultural community, is because we want everybody to feel they can identify to some sort with the definition.

In the end, what we can take from literature is that Aruba can either funnel its CCI or chose a more diverse scale. Thus, replicating the Aruban CCI to one that already exists is also a big no. But, think about it, how would you describe the Aruban CCI? What would you include or exclude? One thing we can all agree on is that this step is probably the most important one, because without a proper inventory leading to a clear definition, we can simply not start implementing a CCI in Aruba. Next time we will look into the relationship sustainable development and the CCI. We will explore how certain Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) could be achieved by considering the implantation of a CCI here in Aruba. Till then!



Biography – Currently, Thais Franken is a 22-year-old Aruban student at the University of Maastricht (UM). She is studying a Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development in collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU). Back home, on the beautiful island of Aruba she completed her Bachelor of Arts in Organization, Governance & Management (OGM) at the University of Aruba (UA). She successfully graduated and defended her thesis titled “Placing Culture and Creativity at the Heart of the Aruban Sustainable Development” on July 6th 2018. Thais is very passionate about topics such as sustainability, innovation, culture and creativity. Next to her academic interests, she enjoys reading, writing, dancing and cooking.

'Father' of Parke Curason: George Forbes

By Linda Reijnders



For years I have been practicing sports at the actual only real sport park in Aruba. Parke Curason at Jaburibari is a fenced park with covered basketball field, football field, BMX racing track, skateboard field, workout stations, kid's play garden and a paved walking/running/biking path of 750 meter. It is located in the neighborhood Jaburibari and a popular spot for locals. If you would like to 'meet the locals', join in on some basketball games and sniff some 'cou-lure local', this is the place. But, for me, the cherry on the pie is the dedication of the 'father' of the park to his job: meet George Forbes.

Face of the Place

There are people that just do their job and there are people that make a difference in the way they do their job. Forbes makes a difference when you visit Parke Curason. He greets visitors, walks around to take off helping a kid pump his football or pointing out a bump in the runway to a jogger. He even is concerned with the cars that enter and directs them to an available parking spot. He is to most people of the park 'the face of the place' and many times we forget to thank people like him to stand out like this.

150 daily visitors

Aruba Today had a little chat with Forbes. "I work here since 13 years and

I love everything about my job. I am supervisor and security. The people come here every day and the connection with them makes me happy." He explains that for a day the park gets about 150 visitors. "That is the average, it can be more in the weekend." All nations and all ages are represented, indeed a multicultural all-generation park. The park he believes exists 14 years now, so he was here from almost the beginning.

"The park at that time looked amazing, everything was new and in good shape. More and more people are coming now, the Aruban people love sports more now and that

is good. Comparing to the past it got better, that is why we need to focus on maintaining the park", George explains. He likes to do sports himself, and he is always walking around to help young and old. "I am not somebody that sits in a corner making my money. There are a lot of things we need to take care of to prevent accidents." For George, his goal is to continue making the people happy and see the park fixed up. "I hope that the promised maintenance will come to reality very soon. It is very important as this park has a crucial role."

BMX training spot

Jaymer Carolina, BMX-er, confirms the importance of the park to his sport: "The park is my training field. I train here 6 times a week from 5 to 7 pm." His club is called Rough Riders Aruba where he rides in the 17-24 age category. "But next season I am planning to race elite, the pros. It's all about adrenaline, speed, style and also trying to work your way up to the first place." Not only is the park a home to BMX groups, also basketball teams, football groups, skateboard fanatics, little children, bikers, runners and walkers find their way. And after all it is also a social gathering spot. Like Daniel Tromp says: "This park allows me to practice my sports, BMX, and therefore I can race abroad. But this is also where I meet my friends. The park is in high need of maintenance and I hope this will be done soon and the government takes her responsibility in this." This opinion is shared by Sharitza Henriquez who likes to walk in the park. "There is a lot of lacked maintenance like the workout stations." For George this is nothing new, he sees his park every day and is concerned about the state of it. "I welcome more and more people every time which is positive, but we need to fix things." Parke Curason is open daily from 5 am - 8.45 pm



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SPORTS



Tennessee Titans head coach Mike Vrabel celebrates with wide receiver Taywan Taylor (13) after Taylor scored a touchdown against the Houston Texans in the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

New coaches get off to rough starts in 2018

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP)

— Jon Gruden was welcomed back to Oakland as a returning hero when he got hired for his second stint as coach of the Raiders.

There was a party he hosted for fans at a local sports bar, loud ovations in the preseason and a heightened level of excitement that Gruden could get the Raiders back to being the consistent winner they were during his first stint that started two decades ago.

The reality has been far different after two weeks.

Continued on Page 22

MAEDA IN L.A.



Dodgers pad NL West lead, top Rockies 3-2

Los Angeles Dodgers relief pitcher Kenta Maeda, of Japan, reacts after striking out Colorado Rockies' Ian Desmond during the eighth inning of a baseball game in Los Angeles, Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018.

Associated Press
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Woods proud to be back at East Lake for FedEx Cup finale

By DOUG FERGUSON

ATLANTA (AP) — Tiger Woods is facing long odds of capturing the FedEx Cup and the \$10 million bonus. That's all relative this year. Just having his own parking spot at East Lake, being back at the Tour Championship for the first time since 2013, even feeling lost during a practice round because the nines were flipped, were all reminders that his greatest accomplishment this year was being part of the 30-man field. "I think the season itself has been amazing, to be able to have played this well," Woods said Wednesday. "I didn't know how many tournaments I'd play in, and next thing you know, here I am in the Tour Championship. ... To have come back from where I've come back from and to get here has been a pretty tall order."

He didn't make it in 2014 because of his first back surgery and his ill-advised attempt to return too early. He missed the entire FedEx Cup playoffs in 2015 when he couldn't chip the ball onto the green from 20 feet away early in the season, and then his back started acting up late in the season. He missed all of 2016 while recovering from two more back surgeries, and all but one PGA Tour event in 2017 because of a fourth back surgery.

Never mind that Woods is at No. 20 in the FedEx Cup standings, having started no worse than No. 3 in his four previous FedEx Cup finales.

This is one tournament where it's more about the start than the finish.

"It's great to have accomplished one of the goals I set out at the beginning of the year: to make it back to East Lake to be part of the Tour Championship and part of these top 30 guys," he said. "I've exceeded a lot of my expectations and goals because so much of it was an unknown."

The only thing left to cap off a remarkable comeback would be a trophy. This is his last chance.

That still probably wouldn't be enough for Woods to



In this Monday, Sept. 3, 2018, file photo, Tiger Woods indicates the direction of the wind before teeing off on the third hole during the final round of the Dell Technologies Championship golf tournament at TPC Boston in Norton, Mass.

Associated Press

win the FedEx Cup for the third time — no one else has won it more than once. The better odds are with the top five seeds — Bryson DeChambeau, Justin Rose, Tony Finau, Dustin Johnson and Justin Thomas — who only have to win the Tour Championship to take home the richest bonus in golf.

Thomas has even more at stake. No one, not even Woods, has won the FedEx Cup in successive years. Thomas was runner-up at East Lake a year ago,

which was enough for him to move past Jordan Spieth and capture the cup.

"I'm excited to have an opportunity to do something that no one has ever done, which is pretty cool," Thomas said. "I'm not sure if it was true or not, but I heard that no one had been in the top five after winning the FedEx Cup."

It's true.

Woods never followed a FedEx Cup title with a top-5 seed because he was recovering from knee surgery in 2008, and he was putting

his personal life back together in 2010. Spieth won in 2015 and was No. 7 going into the Tour Championship the following year. Spieth didn't make it back this year, finishing at No. 31 after a poor week at the BMW Championship.

It was an example that even some of the best in the world can't bank on making it back to East Lake without playing great golf. Woods was good enough, and better than he thought. He was in the mix on the back nine at the last two

majors. He came to the 18th hole at Innisbrook needing a birdie to tie for the lead. He had six finishes in the top 10. And the number that means the most might be the tournaments he played. The Tour Championship is his 18th event, his busiest schedule to date since 2012.

Woods first showed signs of back trouble in the final round of the 2013 PGA Championship, though he revealed Wednesday that his back first started acting up a year earlier in the Ryder Cup at Medinah, and that he asked to play as late as possible.

"That's the only wave I've ever missed," said Woods, who sat out the Saturday morning session, and ended up halving the last of 12 singles matches as Europe rallied from a four-point deficit to win. East Lake is only part of the reward. Woods will be on the charter Sunday night to France for his first Ryder Cup since 2012. He finished 11th in the standings and was as easy choice as a captain's pick by Jim Furyk. Spieth is the only American on the Ryder Cup team not at East Lake. For the other 11, along with six players on the European team, the focus is on the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million prize this week, followed by a cup with no prize at all next week. □

APNewsBreak:

Baseball union, teams meet on revenue grievance

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball players' union officials met last month with management of the four teams accused in a grievance of improper spending of revenue-sharing money, people familiar with the grievance process told The Associated Press.

Players' association general counsel Ian Penny and Rick Shapiro, senior adviser to union head Tony Clark, were among the union executives who traveled to meet separately with officials of the Miami Marlins,

Oakland Athletics, Pittsburgh Pirates and Tampa Bay Rays, the people said, speaking to the AP on condition of anonymity Tuesday because no announcements were authorized. An economist also was among the union officials who attended.

At the time the grievance was filed in February, MLB denied any inappropriate use of revenue-sharing money, as did Pittsburgh and Tampa Bay. Oakland said it supported MLB's statement, and new Marlins CEO Derek Jeter defended his team's decision

to rebuild and go young. Patrick Houlihan, Major League Baseball's senior vice president and deputy general counsel for labor relations, was at the four sessions along with MLB chief financial officer Bob Starkey and additional staff from the commissioner's office, the people said.

Teams made presentations and the union officials asked questions. The next step is unclear; a hearing before arbitrator Mark Irvin has not been scheduled.

The four clubs have among the five lowest payrolls in

the major leagues and only the Athletics appear headed to the postseason.

Tampa Bay was at a major league low \$70.5 million for its 40-man roster, according to Aug. 31 calculations by MLB, just below the Chicago White Sox at \$71.3 million. Oakland was at \$77.8 million, Miami at \$89.5 million and Pittsburgh at \$89.8 million. All other teams are at more than \$99 million.

Oakland will be disqualified from receiving revenue-sharing money starting with the offseason after the 2020 season, according to baseball's labor contract. □

Rams, Jaguars take top 2 spots in latest AP Pro32 poll

By SIMMI BUTTAR

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — And the winner is the Los Angeles Rams.

The Rams, who have looked dominant in the first two weeks of the regular season, have grabbed the top spot from the New England Patriots in the latest AP Pro32 poll on Tuesday.

The Rams received nine of the 12 first-place votes and 380 points in balloting by media members who regularly cover the NFL.

The Rams are coming off a 34-0 rout of the listless Arizona Cardinals and will host the Chargers at the Coliseum on Sunday in an All-LA matchup.

"(Coach) Sean McVay rested most of his starters in the preseason, but the Rams already look like they're in midseason form after another dominating win, albeit over a woeful Cardinals team," Newsday's Bob Glauber said.

The Jacksonville Jaguars earned the remaining three first-place votes for 375 points. The Jaguars moved up three spots after their impressive 31-20 win over the Patriots, who fell to No. 5.

"At least for now, the AFC's early season torch has been passed to the Jaguars after last Sunday's thumping of New England," said Alex Marvez of The Sporting News.

The Minnesota Vikings stayed at No. 3 after rallying to tie the rival Green Bay Packers 29-29 at Lambeau Field.

"The Vikings got better when they signed (kicker) Dan Bailey," said Charean Williams of Pro Football Talk. Bailey was signed after the Vikings waived Daniel Carlson following his missed three field-goal attempts. The fifth-round draft pick from Auburn missed field goals of 48, 49 and 35 yards, with the last two failed tries

coming in overtime.

The Packers also kept their spot at No. 6 after the league's second consecutive week with a tie.

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs, who are off to a 2-0 start, moved up three places to No. 4.

Mahomes had six touchdown passes for the Chiefs, who are coming off a 42-37 victory over Pittsburgh and will face the San Francisco 49ers in their home opener on Sunday.

"The thrilling Pat Mahomes Show is covering up some serious defensive deficiencies at the moment," said Ira Kaufman of Fox 13 in Tampa, Florida.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers, led by a resurgent Ryan Fitzpatrick, vaulted seven spots to No. 8 after topping the Philadelphia Eagles 27-21.

The Buccaneers will face another challenge when they host the Pittsburgh Steelers on Monday night.



Los Angeles Rams running back Todd Gurley celebrates after scoring during the first half of an NFL football game against the Arizona Cardinals Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

"Need to beat Steelers now," Fox Sports' John Czarnecki said of the Bucs.

The Eagles, who will get back quarterback Carson Wentz following his knee injury when they host the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday, dropped five spots to No. 7. The Atlanta Falcons inched up a spot to No. 9 after earning their first win of the

season with a 31-24 victory over the Carolina Panthers. And the surprising Cincinnati Bengals rounded out the top 10 after topping Baltimore 34-23. The Bengals will be without running Joe Mixon for a few weeks following his knee surgery. They will face the Panthers and Falcons on the road in the next two weeks. □

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Taylor HR in 10th, Dodgers top Rockies 3-2, pad NL West lead

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chris Taylor hit a solo home run in the 10th inning to extend Los Angeles' lead in the NL West to 1½ games over Colorado.

Taylor connected off Adam Ottavino (6-4) with one out and was swarmed by teammates at home plate. A day after moving past the Rockies into first place, the defending NL champions matched their largest lead of the season. The Dodgers won the series opener 8-2.

Dylan Floro (6-3) got the win by striking out two in the 10th.

Dodgers starter Clayton Kershaw gave up two runs and three hits in seven innings.

Rockies counterpart Kyle Freeland allowed two runs in 6 2/3 innings. Charlie Blackmon homered for Colorado.

Los Angeles tied it 2-all in the fifth when Austin Barnes scored on a throwing error by third baseman Nolan Arenado.

CUBS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 1 PHOENIX (AP) — Javier Baez and Daniel Murphy each hit an early two-run homer as Chicago routed fading Arizona.

With their fifth victory in six games, the Cubs increased their NL Central lead to 3 1/2 games over Milwaukee, which lost at home to last-place Cincinnati.

Mike Montgomery (5-5) allowed a run and four hits with a season-high eight strikeouts in six innings for his first win since Aug. 7.

The slumping Diamondbacks dropped six games behind the first-place Dodgers in the NL West and six back of St. Louis for the second wild card. They have lost four in a row and nine of 11.

Just before Baez connected, Anthony Rizzo lined out to end a 17-pitch at-bat. Rizzo added a two-run single in a four-run fifth.

Matt Andriese (3-6) lasted two innings and was charged with five runs on five hits in a bullpen game for Arizona.

CARDINALS 8, BRAVES 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Paul De-



Los Angeles Dodgers' Chris Taylor hits a walk-off solo home run during the 10th inning of a baseball game against the Colorado Rockies in Los Angeles, Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018.

Associated Press

Jong hit a two-run homer, Yadier Molina added a two-run single in a four-run eighth inning and St. Louis won ITS third straight game. Austin Gomber pitched five effective innings for St. Louis, which holds a slim lead for the second NL wild card. The Cardinals top the National League with 36 victories since All-Star break, and their 43 road wins this season rank second.

Atlanta's division lead dropped to 5½ games over Philadelphia as the Braves lost their fourth in a row after a season-best six-game winning streak. They are 38-38 at SunTrust Park and have dropped 14 of 18 at home.

The Braves' magic number remained at seven as they try to clinch a division title for the first time in five years. Philadelphia beat the New York Mets 5-2.

Anibal Sanchez (6-6) allowed four hits and two runs and struck out six in five innings.

Gomber (6-1) gave up six hits, one run and three walks while striking out five for his fifth victory in his last six decisions.

REDS 3, BREWERS 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Jose Peraza capitalized on Chase Anderson's home run troubles with a drive in the first inning and Cincinnati handed Milwaukee its third loss in four games.

The Brewers' edge for the top NL wild-card spot was cut to two games over St. Louis. Milwaukee fell 3½ games behind the first-place Cubs in the NL Central.

Milwaukee managed only three hits against five Cincinnati pitchers. It was the third low-scoring defeat for the Brewers in four games — they lost to Pittsburgh 3-1 on Saturday and 3-2 on Sunday.

Michael Lorenzen, making his first start since 2015 after 151 relief appearances, allowed one unearned run on one hit in four innings. Sal Romano (8-11) followed with 2 1/3 scoreless innings for the victory.

Raisel Iglesias struck out three in the ninth after a leadoff walk for his 28th save.

Anderson (9-8) gave up three runs on six hits with two walks in 3 2/3 innings, matching his shortest start of the season. Six relievers

blanked the Reds the rest of the way.

PHILLIES 5, METS 2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jorge Alfaro hit a go-ahead, three-run homer in the sixth inning and Philadelphia boosted its faint playoff hopes.

Philadelphia overcame an uneven outing from ace Aaron Nola and a home run by starter Steven Matz that made him the third Mets pitcher to homer in consecutive appearances. The Phillies won for the third time in 10 games and moved within 5½ games of Atlanta for the NL East lead. The Braves lost at home to St. Louis.

Wilson Ramos and Justin Bour delivered pinch-hit RBI hits in a five-run sixth before Alfaro drilled a curveball from Drew Smith (1-1) to left-center for his 10th homer. And with that, Matz's eventful performance was wasted by the Mets.

The other Mets pitchers to homer in back-to-back outings were Hall of Famer Tom Seaver (1972) and Ron Darling (1989).

Pat Neshek (3-1) relieved Nola and got the final out of the sixth. Seranthony

Dominguez, Tommy Hunter and Hector Neris each pitched a scoreless inning as the Phillies improved to 7-11 against the Mets this season.

PIRATES 2, ROYALS 1, 11 INNINGS

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pinch-hitter Ryan Lavanway drove in the winning run with a single in the 11th inning and Jameson Taillon struck out a career-high 11 for Pittsburgh.

It was just the second at-bat of the season for the 30-year-old Lavanway, the Pirates' fourth-string catcher. He hit .288 in 77 games in with Triple-A Indianapolis. Lavanway has played 142 career games with five teams.

Starling Marte led off the 11th with an infield single off Burch Smith (1-6). Josh Bell walked and Burch struck out Francisco Cervelli before Adam Frazier was intentionally walked to load the bases, setting up Lavanway's walk-off hit to shallow center.

Pinch-hitter Hunter Dozier tied the game in the ninth with a double off Pirates closer Felipe Vazquez that scored Jorge Bonifacio. Left fielder Corey Dickerson threw to shortstop Jordy Mercer, who relayed home to throw out Salvador Perez and preserve the tie.

Kyle Crick (3-2) retired the side on 10 pitches in the 11th to earn the win.

NATIONALS 4, MARLINS 2

MIAMI (AP) — Stephen Strasburg matched his season high with 11 strikeouts and Bryce Harper tied a season high with five walks to lead Washington.

Anthony Rendon drove in two runs for the Nationals (77-75), who moved within 6½ games of the NL East-leading Atlanta.

Strasburg (9-7) pitched six innings and allowed two runs and five hits with two walks. At one point, he struck out six consecutive batters.

Sean Doolittle pitched a perfect ninth for his 25th save in 26 opportunities.

Sandy Alcantara (2-1) pitched four innings for the Marlins and allowed six hits, six walks, and three runs. □

Yankees top Red Sox 3-2, deny Boston a division clincher

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Neil Walker hit a three-run homer, Zach Britton started a game-ending double play on New York's third try in the ninth inning and the Yankees kept the Boston Red Sox from a bubbly celebration in the Bronx for at least another night with a 3-2 victory Tuesday.

Batting from the left side, Walker launched a no-doubter in the seventh inning off Ryan Brasier for the Yankees' third hit of the game and a 3-1 lead.

Aaron Judge returned to New York's lineup for the first time since breaking his right wrist July 26, while AL MVP candidate Mookie Betts got a day off for Boston after injuring his left side Sunday. Judge hit a pop fly to the warning track but finished 0 for 4.

New York moved 2½ games ahead of Oakland for the top AL wild card. The A's lost at home to the Angels. Boston is trying to clinch the AL East at Yankee Stadium for the second time in three years. The Red Sox lead the Yankees by 10 1/2 games and entered the night with a magic number of four over the Astros to lock up baseball's best record.

The game started about six hours after it was supposed to begin. Originally scheduled for 1:05 p.m., it was pushed back earlier in the morning because heavy rain was in the forecast.

Chad Green (8-2) and David Robertson relieved J.A. Happ and got the ball to Britton, who capped a five-hitter for his sixth save.

Boston reliever Brandon Workman (6-1) walked two in the seventh before Walker took Brasier deep. The Red Sox bullpen wasted six scoreless innings of two-hit ball from hard-throwing starter Nathan Eovaldi.

ANGELS 9, ATHLETICS 7 OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Kaleb Cowart hit a go-ahead grand slam in a six-run sixth inning before adding an RBI triple, and Los Angeles rallied past Oakland.

The Athletics fell five games

back of the AL West-leading Astros and 2 1/2 behind the Yankees for the top wild card.

Andrelton Simmons hit a two-run single to get the Angels started in the sixth before Cowart connected against Lou Trivino (8-3) for his club's first grand slam of the season.

Mike Trout hit his 35th home run for Los Angeles and stole his 24th base.

Noe Ramirez (6-5) pitched 1 1/3 innings of relief for the win. Ty Buttrey allowed a two-run single to pinch-hitter Dustin Fowler in the eighth but got five outs for his fourth save.

Mark Canha hit a three-run double for the A's, who lost for the fourth time in five games.

ASTROS 7, MARINERS 0

HOUSTON (AP) — Marwin Gonzalez hit a two-run homer in a four-run third inning that helped Houston eliminate Seattle from contention for the AL West title. Houston extended its division lead to five games over second-place Oakland.

Rookie starter Josh James (1-0) struck out seven and scattered four hits over 5 1/3 innings for his first major league win. Four relievers completed the shutout.

Seattle starter Mike Leake (10-10) yielded six hits and five runs in 6 1/3 innings to snap a two-game winning streak.

RAYS 4, RANGERS 0

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)

— Blake Snell became the major leagues' first 20-game winner in two years, pitching Tampa Bay past Texas.

Snell (20-5) threw one-hit ball for five innings and tied the Tampa Bay record for victories in a season. David Price also won 20 in his Cy Young Award season of 2012.

Snell won his eighth straight start. The 25-year-old lefty struck out five, walked two and threw 92 pitches, exiting with a 1.97 ERA.

Tampa Bay has won four straight and 13 of 16 this month in a last-ditch attempt to wrest a playoff berth from Oakland. The Rays moved within 5½ games of the Athletics for the second AL wild card.

The Rays scored three times in the fourth against Yovani Gallardo (8-6). Willie Adames hit a two-run homer and Joey Wendle had an RBI double.

BLUE JAYS 6, ORIOLES 4

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Orioles fell to Toronto, dropping their 108th game, a team record for losses in a season since they arrived in Baltimore in 1954.

The 1988 Orioles, who opened the season 0-21, held the previous team record for losses with a 54-107 finish. The overall franchise record for defeats is 111, set by the 1939 St. Louis Browns — a mark this year's team could still eclipse.

The Orioles led 4-2 in the seventh before a throw-



Boston Red Sox pitcher Ryan Brasier (70) reacts as New York Yankees' Neil Walker runs the bases after hitting a three-run home run during the seventh inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

ing error by third baseman Steve Wilkerson on a grounder by Teoscar Hernández allowed two runs to score. Lourdes Gurriel Jr. followed with a two-RBI single off reliever Paul Fry that that gave Toronto a 6-4 lead.

Jake Petricka (3-1) pitched two scoreless innings. Tyler Clippard held the Orioles in the eighth, and Ken Giles earned his 23rd save.

TWINS 5, TIGERS 3

DETROIT (AP) — Chris Gimenez homered and Tyler Austin drove in three runs to lead the Twins.

The Twins have won three

straight, while the Tigers have lost seven of nine.

Mikie Mahtook drove in all of Detroit's runs.

Jake Odorizzi (7-10) allowed two runs on four hits in 6 1/3 innings. He walked one and struck out six in his first start since losing a no-hitter in the eighth inning against the New York Yankees.

Trevor Hildenberg pitched the ninth for his seventh save, allowing Mahtook's two-out RBI single.

Daniel Norris (0-5) pitched a season-high 5 1/3 innings, allowing two runs on five hits and three walks. □

Too soon? Fans find Red Sox division title banner in street

SOMERVILLE, Mass. (AP) — The Boston Red Sox have not clinched this year's American League East division championship, but a banner marking the accomplishment has already been accidentally unveiled.

Friends Louie Iacuzzi, James Amaral and Randy Baldasarri tell WFXT-TV they were out for coffee in Somerville, Massachusetts, on Monday morning when

they spotted something in the road. As they peeled off the brown paper wrapping, they thought it was jerseys. The men, all Red Sox fans, were stunned to find out it was the American League East division title banner. A Red Sox spokesman tells the station the banner apparently fell off a vendor's delivery truck. The team planned to send a courier to retrieve the banner Wednesday. □



In this Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018 photo, friends hold a banner they found in Somerville, Mass., that proclaims the Boston Red Sox are the 2018 American League East Champions, though the team has not yet clinch the division.

Associated Press

NEW COACHES

Continued from Page 17

Fans are frustrated by the trade of the team's best player, Khalil Mack, the crowd booed at the end of a lopsided, season-opening loss, and an 0-2 start have raised questions about how long it will take to turn the Raiders into a winner.

"We're going to keep building our football team. Whether that translates into one win or four wins or any wins, I'm not going to make any predictions," Gruden said.

"I want to continue to play good, hardnose football. Keep improving. Keep improving and good things will happen. I'm not going to sit here and make any predictions about anything other than we're going to play hard and provide the best effort we can."

Gruden's not alone when it comes to getting off to slow starts in a new tenure as coach. All seven new coaches lost on the opening weekend for the worst debut performance in NFL history for a new class of coaches.

There was some improvement in Week 2 as Indianapolis' Frank Reich, Chicago's Matt Nagy and Tennessee's Mike Vrabel all got into the win column for the first time in their head coaching careers.

"It always helps to win," Vrabel said. "When you're trying to explain things to a team, or trying to get a message across, there has to be some tangible evidence to say, 'Hey, when we do these things we give ourselves a chance to win.'"



Detroit Lions head coach Matt Patricia stands on the sidelines during the second half of an NFL football game against the San Francisco 49ers in Santa Clara, Calif., Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018. San Francisco won the game 30-27.

Associated Press

The other three new coaches are in the same boat as Gruden, searching for that elusive first win and facing questions about whether they were the right choice for the job.

The New York Giants have looked listless on offense in their first two games under former Minnesota offensive coordinator Pat Shurmur, scoring only one TD in the opener and not making it into the end zone until 1:27 remained in a 20-13 loss to Dallas this past week.

It's the defense that's been the problem in Detroit under former New England defensive coordinator Matt Patricia. The Lions have allowed 78 points in losses to the Jets and San Francisco, the third most in franchise history after two games.

"I certainly understand their

frustration and we're doing everything we can possible to make sure we get this turned around," Patricia said of Detroit fans who have celebrated just one playoff win in the past 60 years.

"I expect to win every single week and go out and we work extremely hard to make sure we get that done, and we have to keep pushing forward."

The Cardinals have been perhaps the worst team of all under Steve Wilks, getting outscored 58-6 the first two weeks against Washington and the Rams and failing even to cross midfield until the next-to-last play of the game in Sunday's 34-0 drubbing against Los Angeles.

There are already questions about coordinator Mike

McCoy's status in Arizona and about when rookie quarterback Josh Rosen should take over from Sam Bradford.

"We all need to look in the mirror and check ourselves and figure out, 'What can I do to help this team win games?'" Wilks said.

"I don't think your actual long-term vision changes and your expectations, but you have to be able to adapt in this league. We're looking to make changes. We're looking to make this thing better and make it right."

"So, to say that we're satisfied, (to say that) I'm satisfied to where we are right now not scoring a touchdown in two games and having a lack of production on the offensive side of the ball, no. We've got to

make some changes."

One of the problems for these new coaches is the reason they were hired in the first place was that something was wrong with their franchises. The Titans are the only one of the seven teams to make the playoffs in 2017 and the Lions are the only other that had a winning record.

The Cardinals are in a major transition after the retirement of coach Bruce Arians and quarterback Carson Palmer, while the Raiders, Giants and Colts combined for just 13 wins a year ago.

With those recent struggles and coaches who are bringing in new assistants and systems, there is also the usual roster turnover that comes with a new regime. Implementing that is even harder now than it was in the past because of limited practice time in the offseason and a league-wide move to cut back on playing time for regulars in the exhibition season.

"Everybody's learning, every week we're going to learn and get better and make improvements. That's what we have to do," Giants quarterback Eli Manning said. "When you have a new offense, new players, new guys coming in, there is a learning curve to it so we've just got to keep grinding and keep preparing and don't get down. Have the desire to get better. If we all want that, we all have that, and we've got to make the improvements that the coaches are giving us, and that will give us a better opportunity to win the game." □

U.S. Open champion Osaka dominant on return to action in Japan

By JIM ARMSTRONG

AP Sports Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Naomi Osaka's homecoming couldn't have gone much better.

Playing in her first tournament since winning the U.S. Open, third-seeded Osaka impressed her Japanese fans Wednesday with a powerful 6-2, 6-1 win over Dominika Cibulkova to reach the quarterfinals of the Pan Pacific Open.

Osaka was in control of the second-round match



Naomi Osaka of Japan returns a shot against Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia during the second round of Pan Pacific Open women's tennis tournament in Tokyo Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

from the outset, breaking Cibulkova's serve in the first game at a sold-out Tachikawa Arena.

"My first match (since the U.S. Open) in Tokyo felt really special," Osaka said. "I didn't really feel pressure, I felt more excitement because I knew that a lot of people were watching this match. I felt really grateful."

"I'm just grateful I could play in front of you guys and want to thank everyone for their support."

The local favorite raced

out to a 4-0 lead before Cibulkova finally held to win her first game. Osaka hit three aces to close out the first set.

She broke her opponent three more times in the second set to win in just over an hour, hitting 25 winners to just nine unforced errors. Osaka became the first Japanese player to win a Grand Slam singles title when she upset 23-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams on Sept. 8 in New York. □

AP source: 76ers name Elton Brand general manager

By **DAN GELSTON**

AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Elton Brand is in charge of the Philadelphia 76ers.

A person familiar with the situation says the Sixers have made Brand their new general manager, replacing Bryan Colangelo. Colangelo resigned in June as the 76ers' president of basketball operations after what an investigation concluded was "careless and in some instances reckless" sharing of sensitive team information on Twitter.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because the move had not been officially announced. Brand is expected to be introduced at a news conference on Thursday.

Brand had worked for the Sixers as vice president of operations and also served as the general manager of the Delaware Blue Coats, the 76ers' G League affiliate.

Brand was the No. 1 pick of the 1999 draft by the Chicago Bulls and played two stints with the Sixers.

Sixers coach Brett Brown had served as Philadelphia's interim GM and said earlier Tuesday he wasn't interested in holding both

jobs. Brown pledged the Sixers would name a general manager before the season started.

"This is not something that interests me. I do not believe in the role that I have as a head coach that it's tenable," Brown said. "We will have, to the best of my knowledge, a general manager appointed, announced by the start of the season. And it's not me. It was never going to be."

Hours later, the Sixers had their guy.

Brand played in 1,058 career games over 18 seasons with the Bulls, the Los Angeles Clippers, Dallas, Atlanta and the Sixers. He posted career averages of 16 points, nine rebounds, two assists and two blocks per game. A two-time All-Star and the 2000 rookie of the year, Brand was also the recipient of the 2005-06 Joe Dumars Trophy, presented each season to the player who exemplifies the ideals of sportsmanship on the court.

The person familiar with the decisions also said Ned Cohen will remain assistant general manager and Marc Eversley will stay as senior vice president of player personnel. They both interviewed for the GM job.



In this March 23, 2016, file photo, Philadelphia 76ers forward Elton Brand stands during the second half of the team's NBA basketball game against the Denver Nuggets in Denver.

Associated Press

Alex Rucker was promoted to executive vice president of basketball operations. The Sixers won 52 games last season and beat Miami in the first round of the playoffs before they were eliminated in the conference semifinals by Boston. Under Brown's watch, Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons have blossomed into two of the top young players in the league.

The Sixers were rocked

when an independent review found that Colangelo's wife, Barbara Bottini, operated four Twitter accounts it investigated, and she admitted using private information to criticize the Sixers and rival colleagues. Colangelo and his predecessor Sam Hinkie, who hired Brown, had the final say in player personnel decisions. Brown said he was looking "for a partner" in personnel moves with the

new GM.

"I do have a voice. I've always had a voice here," Brown said. "I think as the head coach, it should be that, to a point. I get the role of the general manager."

Brown said losing Colangelo was a "game-changer" but said his absence or lack of a general manager had nothing to do with the Sixers striking out in their bid to land LeBron James, Kawhi Leonard, Paul George, a lower-tier free agent — or anyone beyond a couple of modest pickups such as Wilson Chandler.

"I think we would all be naive to think free agents choose a basketball program because of a general manager," Brown said. "They come because of Joel and Ben. And I hope the coach has got a little bit to do with it."

He added: "The general manager situation had zero to do with us not being able to acquire one of those talents."

Brown, who took the 76ers from 10 wins to the third seed in the Eastern Conference in just two seasons, agreed in May to a three-year contract extension that runs through the 2021-2022 season. □

Sue Bird highlights U.S. women's world cup roster

By **DOUG FEINBERG**

AP Basketball Writer

TENERIFE, Spain (AP) — Fresh off winning a third WNBA title, Sue Bird will try to help the U.S. win a third straight FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup.

Bird is on the American squad for a record fifth time and can get an unprecedented fourth gold medal.

She'll be joined on the U.S. roster by Seattle Storm teammates Breanna Stewart and Jewell Loyd. The trio helped the Storm win the WNBA championship last week sweeping the Washington Mystics.

"It helps to have a sweep," U.S. coach Dawn Staley said. "We're going to get them now versus they wouldn't have gotten here until maybe a day or two or three later, but to get them here yesterday in time to get a little practice in and play against a competitive team like Australia this morning really helps a great deal."

Washington star Elena Delle Donne will also be on the world cup roster. She suffered a bone bruise in her left knee during the WNBA playoffs, but was well enough to play in the world cup for the first time.

"EDD wanted to be here," Staley said. "She played through an injury to be here. We'll watch what we do with her. We'll cut down on her practice time and get her ready to help us through the games we need to play."

The U.S. plays Senegal on Saturday, China on Sunday and Latvia on Tuesday in group play.

World Cup veterans Diana Taurasi, Brittney Griner, Tina Charles and Nneka Ogwu-mike are also on the U.S. roster.

"The key word for us is looking at our roster is versatility," Staley said. "Players that



In this April 26, 2018, file photo, United States' Sue Bird, right, dribbles as China's Lili Wang defends during the first half of an exhibition basketball game in Seattle.

Associated Press

can play multiple positions. We can play big or small. When you have that variety, it helps you in the tournament."

The U.S. has four other first-timers on the roster besides Delle Donne and Loyd. A'ja Wilson, Kelsey Plum,

Morgan Tuck and Layshia Clarendon are all making their first appearances in the tournament. Plum and Clarendon will help provide some depth at the point guard slot. "I don't want to put a whole lot of pressure on Sue at this stage. □

Too much screen time? New phone controls for you and kids

By ANICK JESDANUN

NEW YORK (AP) — Apple and Google want to help you spend less time on their phones — really. Like that time you checked Facebook at 3 a.m. Stats don't lie.

Their new tools for managing screen time will let you see how often you picked up the phone after bedtime or how long you're on Instagram at work (shame on you). Apple's tools also let you control how long your kids spend on their devices, if you're concerned that screens are taking time away from sleep, homework or exercise.

Apple's tools launch Tuesday as part of the free iOS 12 software update for iPhones, iPads and the iPod Touch. Google's controls are being tested on its Pixel-branded Android phones. Here's how the controls work.

FOR THE KIDS

Apple's new controls for kids let you manage their time on their own devices, such as an iPad or a hand-me-down iPhone. Once you've got them set up, you can use your iPhone to check when your children are on their devices and what apps or websites they're using. You can restrict particular classes of apps and even establish



In this June 4, 2018, file photo Apple CEO Tim Cook speaks during an announcement of new products at the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference in San Jose, Calif.

Associated Press

a quiet period when most apps shut down.

That latter "Downtime" feature is promising, though it has a few shortcomings. For one thing, it only lets you choose a single block of time each day, so if you're blocking late-night hours, you can't set a separate downtime for school hours. Plus, your selection applies seven days a week; you can't set different hours for weekends unless you want to manually change the settings every Friday and

Monday.

A new "Screen Time" feature lets you establish time limits for categories of apps, such as entertainment or games. In this case, limits can be different on weekends. You can also set limits app by app, or for specific websites, but it's tricky. From the Screen Time settings, tap the chart at the top to get a list of apps and websites. Tap on an app or site, and look for "Add Limit" at the bottom.

Songs or podcasts playing

in the background don't count toward limits. If your kid has both an iPhone and an iPad, Screen Time can track time spent on both devices against your limits. When apps run out of time, their icons go dark and the apps won't send notifications. You can exempt useful apps, such as e-books or homework sites — or messaging and phone service for emergencies — from downtime and other limits. It's best to configure all this from your own device us-

ing Apple's "Family Sharing" feature. You can set up limits directly on your children's devices, though remote monitoring features might not work properly. Either way, you'll need a passcode specifically for Screen Time. Be sure to pick one that's different from your phone's passcode, which your kids probably already know. Kids can ask for more time with a few taps. If you ignore or decline the request, Screen Time isn't supposed to let them keep asking. But for the moment, kids can just reopen the app to bug you with another request. Get ready for a digital version of "Are we there yet? Are we there yet?" Apple already had parental controls for blocking R-rated movies, adult websites and podcasts with explicit language, but the settings were buried. In iOS 12, they're part of Screen Time. You'll need to turn them on manually, or your kid can still watch R and NC-17 movies. What you won't get from Apple is any help in determining what kinds of limits to set. In fact, the clock is initially set to zero, forcing parents to make choices right off the bat instead of working from default limits. Apple says recommendations among experts vary. □



In this Friday, July 27, 2018, file photo, the logo for Amazon is displayed on a screen at the Nasdaq MarketSite.

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — European authorities said Wednesday they have opened a preliminary antitrust investigation into Amazon over the e-commerce giant's treatment of smaller merchants on its website.

EU Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said she wants to examine how Seattle-based Amazon uses data it gathers through transactions, including those involving rival sellers, on its platform.

EU opens investigation into how Amazon uses data

"The question here is about the data," Vestager said at a press briefing.

She said the probe will look at whether the data, which is collected for legitimate purposes, is also used to give Amazon a competitive advantage over the smaller merchants by giving it insights into what kinds of things people want to buy.

In addition to selling its own products, Amazon also allows third-party retailers to sell their goods through its Marketplace. Last year,

more than half of the items sold on Amazon worldwide were from third-party sellers. "It is very early days in this antitrust investigation into Amazon's business practices," Vestager said. She added that EU regulators have started gathering information on the issue and have sent "quite a number of questionnaires" to merchants and others in order to understand the issue.

Amazon.com Inc. declined to comment Wednesday. It's the latest move by the

European Union to subject big tech companies to increasing scrutiny, amid worries that they are becoming too dominant.

Amazon has been the target of previous EU investigations. Last year, officials ordered it to pay \$295 million in back taxes to Luxembourg after finding that the company profited from a tax avoidance deal with the tiny European country. EU officials also investigated Amazon's e-book business, which was resolved last year. □

Banks lead US stock indexes mostly higher in afternoon trade

By ALEX VEIGA
Associated Press

Major U.S. stock indexes edged mostly higher in afternoon trading Wednesday as gains in financial companies outweighed losses elsewhere in the market. Bond yields climbed to the highest level in four months, sending bank shares higher and weighing on utilities and other high-dividend payers. Energy stocks rose along with crude oil prices. Homebuilders declined following a mixed batch of housing data. Technology companies lagged the most.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index rose 3 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,907 as of 3:03 p.m. Eastern Time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 175 points, or 0.7 percent, to 26,422. The Nasdaq composite lost 16 points, or 0.2 percent, to 7,940. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies gave up 8 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,702. Decliners were edging out gainers on the



In this Aug. 31, 2018, file photo trader Thomas Ferrigno, left, works with specialists Dilip Patel, center, and Karan Virdi on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

New York Stock Exchange. **THE QUOTE:** The surge in bond yields reflects the belief on the part of many investors that the economy is strengthening, noted Craig Birk, chief investment officer at Personal Capital.

"If the economy continues to move forward then interest rates have more room to creep higher and the Fed has more room to continue raising (short-term rates)," he said.

BOND YIELDS CLIMB: Bond

prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 3.08 percent from 3.04 percent late Tuesday. That's the highest level since May 22. Higher yields force interest rates on mortgages and other loans higher, making

it more profitable for banks to lend money. The higher bond yields drove up shares in banks and other financial stocks. Prudential Financial rose 3.4 percent to \$103.63.

DRIVER OUT: AutoNation rose 1.8 percent to \$43.87 on news that CEO Mike Jackson is stepping down after almost two decades leading the nation's largest auto dealership chain.

FIT FOR GROWTH: Fitbit shares gained 6 percent to \$6.15 after the maker of wearable exercise trackers launched a platform that offers personalized coaching. The company also announced a partnership with Humana to potentially give the insurer's 5 million members access to the platform.

ALMOST THERE: Praxair climbed 3.7 percent to \$163.98 on news reports that the industrial gases company is moving closer to U.S. antitrust approval of its merger with Germany's Linde. □

August housing construction up 9.2 pct., but permits slide

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. home construction rebounded in August at the fastest pace in seven months but applications for new building permits plunged, sending mixed signals for an industry that has been struggling with rising lumber costs.

Housing starts increased 9.2 percent in August to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.28 million units, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday. Housing starts had declined 0.3 percent in July and 11.4 percent in June. The increase was the biggest since a 10.2 percent advance in January.

Application for building permits, considered a good indication of future activity, fell by 5.7 percent in August after a 0.9 percent rise in July. Permit applications have been down four of the past five months. Builders have struggled

this year to deal with rising costs for lumber, land and labor. The National Association of Home Builders estimates that lumber prices have shot up by about \$7,000 per home since the start of 2017, largely due to tariffs the Trump administration has imposed on imports of Canadian softwood lumber. The strength in August was led by a 29.3 percent surge in apartment construction, a volatile category which had fallen by 3.7 percent in July and 16.6 percent in June. The bigger single-family category saw an increase of 1.9 percent in August following a gain of 1.1 percent in July and a fall of 9.3 percent in June. The home builders group reported Tuesday that its index for builder sentiment

held steady at 67 in September, a level that is consistent with further increases in home construction. The sentiment number may be firming after having slipped this year from its recent high in late 2017.

Economists are hopeful that housing will rebound from its recent slowdown, helped by low unemployment and strong overall economic growth. □



In this Thursday, Aug. 30, 2018, file photo, a worker toils on a new home under construction in Denver.

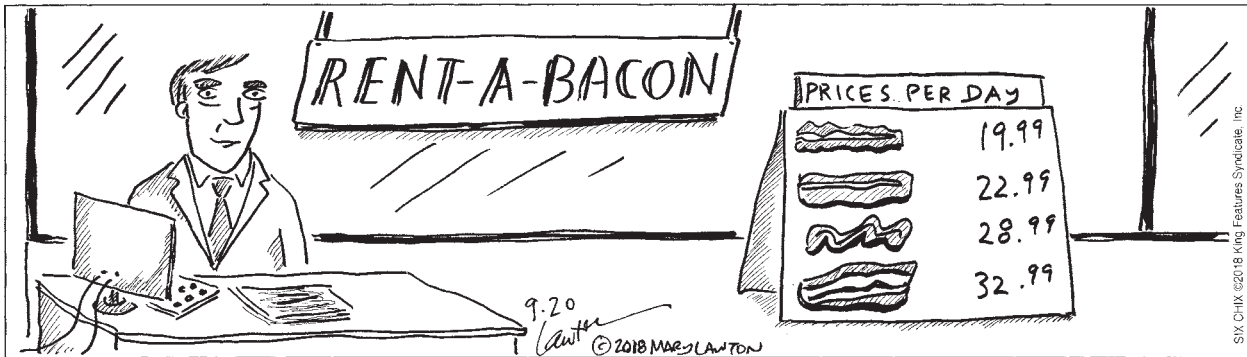
Associated Press



Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9	8						7	5
		7	2		4	6		
		5		3		1		
			4	1	8			
		3		2		9		
		8	6		5	2		
7	1						9	4

Difficulty Level ★★

9/20

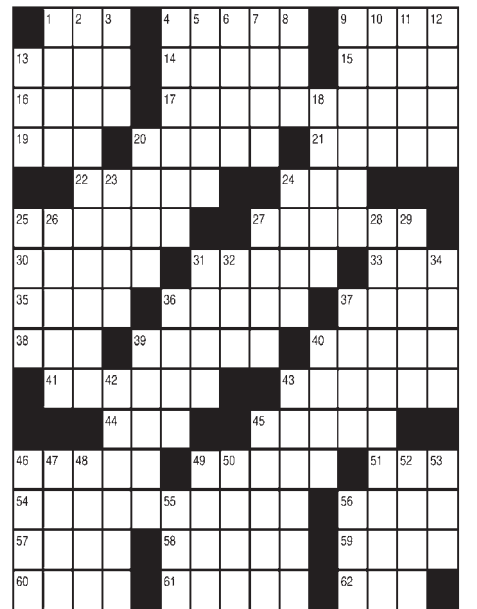
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	5	2	3	9	4	6	1	8
3	9	8	1	6	2	4	7	5
6	4	1	5	8	7	9	3	2
5	3	4	9	7	1	2	8	6
2	7	6	8	4	5	3	9	1
8	1	9	2	3	6	7	5	4
9	2	3	4	1	8	5	6	7
1	6	5	7	2	9	8	4	3
4	8	7	6	5	3	1	2	9

ACROSS

- 1 Partially opened flower
4 Egyptian dam
9 Flying saucers, for short
13 Window glass
14 VP Agnew
15 Forbidden item
16 Weapons
17 Consecrated
19 Gen. Robert E.
20 Melodies
21 Good wood for rafts
22 Meanders
24 Fraternity letter
25 Point the finger at
27 Gives a heads-up to
30 Chef's utensil
31 Kyoto's nation
33 Sterling or Steiger
35 Pool toy
36 Stengel or Affleck
37 Place to buy salami & rye
38 Thee
39 Heaved sounds
40 Stopwatch
41 Inclines
43 Take into custody
44 Mayberry resident
45 Overuse the mirror
46 Hush money
49 Shopper's fling
51 Doris or Dennis
54 Deep cut
56 Golf course shout
57 out a win
58 Black-and-white critter
59 Pitcher's delights
60 Marries
61 Lock of hair
62 Feminine ending
- DOWN**
1 Like Old Mother Hubbard's cupboard
2 Cruel



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/20/18

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

NBC	ADORN	SALT
EELS	ROMEO	ODOR
BEAM	CLINT	RACE
SPAGHETTI	TYKE	
SEES	COO	
BRAHMS	SNIFFLES	
RILES	SAINTE	ELI
AVID	ICING	SNAG
DAB	STALE	WIDTH
SLICKERS	KISSES	
AIR	PEST	
BLAB	APPREHEND	
YOGI	TULIP	RUES
OPEN	ERODE	SNAP
BEDS	SEWER	SLY

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9/20/18

- 37 Urgent
39 Look of contempt
40 Acacia or alder
42 Mother Superior
43 Stadiums
45 Nudges
46 it, failed miserably
47 Leaf-gathering tool
48 tea
49 Polaris or Betelgeuse
50 Evergreen
52 and crafts
53 Simple reply
55 Capable
56 Nemesis

Woman in critical condition after Barrier Reef shark attack

Associated Press

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) —

A woman was in a critical condition Thursday after she was mauled by a shark on Australia's Great Barrier Reef, officials said.

The 46-year-old tourist from Tasmania state was swimming Wednesday from a yacht in Cid Harbor on Whitsunday Island off the Queensland state coast when she was attacked by a shark that mauled an upper thigh, ambulance spokeswoman Tracey Eastwick said.

Dr. John Hadok of Mackay Base Hospital happened to be on a nearby yacht and helped slow the bleeding before a rescue helicopter arrived, Eastwick said.

"Fortunately he was able to assist in immediate treatment of the patient and to stabilize the serious hemorrhage that she had," Eastwick said.

The helicopter landed at the town of Proserpine to refuel, Eastwick said.

The hospital reported the woman remained in critical condition after undergoing surgery on Wednesday night. □

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SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

Renaissance:
Wk 37, Unit 2332 \$3,500
3rd Floor/Harbor View
Wk 38, Unit 2503 \$2,500
5th Floor/Pool View

La Cabana:
Wk 37, Unit 214C \$2,000
Renaissance

Wk 23, Unit 2326 \$2,750
3rd Floor/Harbor View
Wk 24, Unit 2505 \$3,750
5th Floor/Ocean View
Wk 27, Unit 2120 \$2,950
1st Floor/Harbor View
Wk 29, Unit 2517 \$4,500
5th Floor/Pool & Ocean View
Wk 29, Unit 2524 \$6,500
5th Floor/Harbor View
Wk 30, Unit 2546 \$5,500
5th Floor/Ocean Front
Wk 32, Unit 2509 \$5,750
5th Floor/Pool & Ocean View
Wk 32, Unit 2332 \$2,750
3rd Floor/Harbor View
Wk 33, Unit 2332 \$2,750
3rd Floor/Harbor View
Wk 34, Unit 2121 \$4,000
1st Floor/Pool View
Wk 34, Unit 2123 \$2,500
1st Floor/Pool View
Wk 34, Unit 2136 \$3,000
1st Floor/Harbor View
Wk 35, Unit 2120 \$4,000
Ground Floor/Harbour View
Wk 35, Unit 2315 \$3,500
3rd Floor/Pool View
Wk 35, Unit 2349 \$6,500
3rd Floor/Ocean Front
Wk 38, Unit 2503 \$2,500
5th Floor/Ocean Front
Wk 38, Unit 2545 \$4,000
5th Floor/Pool & Ocean

La Cabana

Wk 30 Unit 227A \$4,000
Partial Ocean

Wk 33, Unit 213C \$2,075
Garden View

Wk 35, Unit 140C/226C \$5,000
Pool View

Divi

Divi Dutch Village
Wk 17, Unit 138 \$5,000

Divi Dutch Village
Wk 19, Unit 72 \$4,000 OBO

Divi Village: Very motivated seller
Week 43, Unit 7206, \$3,500
(Old price \$7,250)
Beechfront Deluxe Studio, Ocean View

Costa Linda

Wk 25, Unit 5018 \$12,000
Wk 25, Unit 5016 \$12,000
Wk 29, Unit 1 \$12,000

Casa del Mar

Wk 34 Unit 1428 \$2,500
Pool View

Tropicana

Wk 29, Unit 1543 \$2,750
1 Bedroom
Wks 29-32, Unit 5557 \$4,000 ea wk
Wk 32, Unit 3526 \$6,000

Occidental

Wk 52 & Wk 1, 1 Bedr \$50,000 for both
Wk 7, \$35,000 2 Bedr
La Quinta

Wk 33/34 Unit 102 \$5,000
1 Bedroom

SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

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Watchdog slams safeguards for foster kids on psych drugs

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of foster children may be getting powerful psychiatric drugs prescribed to them without basic safeguards, says a federal watchdog agency that found a failure to care for youngsters whose lives have already been disrupted.

A report released Monday by the Health and Human Services inspector general's office found that about 1 in 3 foster kids from a sample of states were prescribed psychiatric drugs without treatment plans or follow-up, standard steps in sound medical care.

Kids getting mood-altering drugs they don't need is only part of the problem. Investigators also said children who need medication to help them function at school or get along in social settings may be going untreated.

The drugs include medications for attention deficit disorder, anxiety, PTSD, depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. Foster kids are much more likely to get psychiatric drugs than children overall.

"We are worried about the gap in compliance because it has an immediate, real-world impact on children's lives," said Ann Maxwell, an assistant inspector general.

Among the situations investigators encountered was the case of a 6-year-old boy diagnosed with ADHD, learning and speech disorders, outbursts of temper and defiance, and hair-pulling disorder. He had been put on four psychiatric drugs.

But a medication review questioned the need for



In this March 21, 2006 file photo, pills move through a precision weighing machine at a pharmaceutical manufacturers trade show in New York.

some of the medications. Of the four, two were discontinued and one was reduced in dosage, investigators said. Two different medications were then prescribed.

Investigators found no evidence that a treatment plan for the boy had been developed in the first place, before starting him on medication.

In another case, an 11-year-old boy had been put on two medications after being diagnosed with ADHD, anxiety and behavior problems. But over a three-month period his foster mother had problems getting prescription refills. By the fourth month, the boy's life was out of control. His decline included stealing, lying, bullying and an in-school suspension.

Investigators found there

was no requirement in that state for case workers to follow up with foster parents about medications. The lack of effective follow-up contributed to the boy's downward spiral.

"These children are at greater risk of not getting the medications they need, but equally important, they are at risk of getting powerful medications that they do not need," Maxwell said. The inspector general is recommending that the HHS Administration for Children and Families develop a strategy to help states meet their existing requirements for prescribing psychiatric drugs to foster children, and to generally raise standards for case-by-case oversight.

In a formal response to the report the children's agency said it may need

additional legal authority. The agency also said it is committed to making sure foster children get psychiatric medications only when medically appropriate. Officials noted that the inspector general's findings covered just five states. Foster children come into the mental health system with added complications. Their most basic connections in life have been stressed or severed. They may have suffered neglect or abandonment. They may have witnessed or been a victim of abusive behavior or violence.

A 2010 study from the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute found that estimated rates of psychiatric drug use among youth in foster care are much higher (13 percent to 52 percent) than among

youth overall (4 percent). Compounding the challenge for foster children is the fact that responsibility for their well-being is often divided among foster parents, birth parents, relatives and case workers. That can increase chances for miscommunication and conflict, not to mention everyday problems going unaddressed until they escalate. Caring for foster kids is a shared responsibility of state, local and federal agencies. The federal government provides grants to state programs and also covers health care for foster children through Medicaid, which spends hundreds of millions of dollars annually on psychiatric drugs. Nationally, it's been estimated that about 120,000 children in foster care take at least one such medication.

The inspector general scrutinized a sample of 125 cases from each of five states with the highest overall percentages of foster children treated with psychiatric drugs. Those states were Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Virginia. The cases covered the period from October 2014 through March 2015. Investigators looked at each state's compliance with its own particular requirements for treatment planning and follow-up. Maxwell said the finding that 34 percent of children did not have either treatment plans or follow-up monitoring translates to about 4,500 children in the five states examined. She said the national number would certainly be higher but the design of the inspector general's review did not allow for a simple extrapolation. Even among the five states cited there were wide differences. □

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Met season promises vocal treats and retooled Ring

By MIKE SILVERMAN

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Jonas is back, if only briefly. Anna is here, in full diva mode. The seemingly unstoppable Placido marks his 50th anniversary. And the "Ring" contraption returns — maybe for the last time — with a promise of greater reliability and fewer "clunks and clicks."

These attractions and more are on tap as the Metropolitan Opera opens its 134th season on September 24 with a new production of Saint-Saens' "Samson et Dalila" starring Elina Garanca and Roberto Alagna. It winds up 212 performances later on May 11, with the final installment of Wagner's four-part "Der Ring des Nibelungen," starring Christine Goerke as Brünnhilde. This will be the last season before the company launches Sunday matinee performances, a move aimed at boosting sagging box-office revenues.

Besides "Samson," there are new productions of Verdi's "La Traviata," Cilea's "Adriana Lecouvreur" and a recent work, Nico Muhly's "Marnie," adapted from the book that inspired the Alfred Hitchcock film. But many opera lovers are just as enthused about the wealth of intriguing revivals. "It's one of the strongest seasons in years, featuring important, starry revivals of some of the operas I love best," said James Jorden, editor and publisher of the online opera magazine "parterre box." He cited in particular a revival of Debussy's "Pelleas et Melisande," conducted by the Met's new music director, Yannick Nezet-Seguin. Other major revivals include Poulenc's "Dialogues des Carmelites," again conducted by Nezet-Seguin; Puccini's three one-acts, "Il Trittico," commemorating the 100th anniversary of its Met world premiere; and Verdi's "Otello," led by L.A. Philharmonic maestro Gustavo Dudamel in his Met debut.

A few of the highlights:

—The elusive Jonas Kaufmann, the most ac-



This image released by the Metropolitan Opera shows tenor Roberto Alagna and mezzo-soprano Elina Garanca rehearsing a scene from Saint-Saens' "Samson et Dalila," which will open the Metropolitan Opera's new season on Sept. 24.

Associated Press

claimed tenor in the world today, jets in midway through the run of Puccini's "La Fanciulla del West" to sing four performances — including an HD broadcast — as Dick Johnson, the bandit with a heart of gold. Kaufmann has been absent from the Met since 2014.

—Anna Netrebko, the Russian soprano who has been a mainstay at the Met since her 2002 debut, has moved from light lyric roles into heavier repertory, scoring huge successes as Verdi's Lady Macbeth and Puccini's Tosca. Now she's taking on the touchstone of spinto soprano roles, Verdi's "Aida." The Met's general manager, Peter Gelb, heard her debut in the role in Salzburg, Austria, and said he was "not surprisingly blown away. ... In my opinion she's the best Aida since Leontyne Price." Netrebko will also headline the new "Lecouvreur," a verismo chestnut that's a favorite of prima donnas with a flair for melodrama.

—Placido Domingo, the 77-year-old tenor-turned-baritone, is, as Gelb noted, "somewhat obsessed with his various milestone achievements, as he deserves to be." Having just sung the 150th role of his career, in Salzburg, he celebrates his Met anniversary

with a flurry of appearances: seven in Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi" and five in "La Traviata." He'll also conduct "Aida" three times and reign as guest of honor at a black-tie dinner dance on the Met stage (tickets start at \$2,500).

—Finally, and most controversially, the \$16 million, 45-ton "Ring" set conceived by Canadian director Robert Lepage, consisting of 24 giant aluminum planks arrayed on a central spine like a gigantic seesaw and supported by 26-foot-tall towers on either side of the stage. Through use of projections, the set created some spectacular visual effects, but it also was plagued by safety, reliability and noise issues from its first appearance in 2010. □

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'Life Itself' is star-studded, earnest but lacking

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

Hallmark sentimentality, passionate defenses of Bob Dylan's "Time Out of Mind" and horrific head traumas are thrown together in Dan Fogelman's "Life Itself," a curious cocktail of a movie from the "This is Us" creator about all of life's highest highs and lowest lows across generations and continents. Fogelman has seemingly never met an extreme emotion he doesn't want to exploit, and "Life Itself" might be the apex of that guiding principle. For a movie in which the phrase "unreliable narrator" is repeated at least a dozen times, "Life Itself" is incredibly easy to spoil and oddly difficult to tease. It starts over several times, it lies, it backtracks, it misleads and surprises all in service of trying to hammer in the thesis that "life is the unreliable narrator." Life may be unreliable, sure, but movies sure as heck don't have to be to prove the point and this cynical device does not serve the earnest story he's attempting to tell. Nor does



This image released by Amazon Pictures shows Olivia Wilde, left, and Oscar Isaac in a scene from "Life Itself."

all the head trauma. If there is a beginning, it's with Will (Oscar Isaac) and Abby (Olivia Wilde), who are apart in the present, but not too long ago were married, living in New York, extremely pregnant and spending long mornings in bed cooing at each other

under white linens and discussing that 1997 Dylan album. Will is doing so poorly with the separation that he's taken up screenwriting and berating baristas while pouring alcohol into his coffee at an hour when such behavior is generally frowned upon.

He tells his therapist, Dr. Morris (Annette Bening), about Abby and how in love, or, more accurately, how obsessed he was with her. She's beautiful, nurturing, and will eat everything the sushi chef puts in front of her, "Even the uni." There are shades of "(500)

Days of Summer" in this whole segment as they go from the fateful Halloween where they fell in love while dressed as Vincent Vega and Mia Wallace, back to Abby's tragic childhood and up to dinner with the in-laws (Mandy Patinkin and Jean Smart). But then that part of the story ends, quite abruptly, and we're taken to Spain to meet some new people who are sort of cosmically linked to the New Yorkers. Spain is the stronger part of the movie, with a contained and compellingly written story of a simple farmer Javier (Sergio Peris-Mencheta), his wife Isabel (Laia Costa), their son and the wealthy farm owner and landlord, Mr. Saccione (a very good Antonio Banderas who has a heck of a monologue about his mother and the Italian man she married). Yet even this reads as a little false, a little foreign and a little too conveniently cute and folksy to be fully believed and embraced. In fact, nothing much in "Life Itself" feels like life itself. □

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'The Most Dangerous Branch' looks at the Supreme Court



This cover image released by Crown shows "The Most Dangerous Branch: Inside the Supreme Court's Assault on the Constitution," by David A. Kaplan.

Associated Press

By TRACEE M. HERBAUGH
Associated Press
"The Most Dangerous Branch: Inside the Supreme

Court's Assault on the Constitution" (Crown), by David A. Kaplan If Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court confirmation hearings have inspired you to dig deeper into the intricacies of the nation's highest court, look no further than a new book devoted to the subject. David A. Kaplan's "The Most Dangerous Branch: Inside the Supreme Court's Assault on the Constitution" couldn't be better. As an ideal, the Supreme Court aims to be above the political fray. But nine humans comprise the bench and therefore objectivity remains an aspiration. Justices are liberal or conservative and mostly vote aligned the same way. The politicization of the court as we know it, Kaplan

writes, stems from Justice Antonin Scalia's 2016 death at the Cibolo Creek Ranch in West Texas, a lavish resort popular among elite hunters. Kaplan opens the book with Scalia's final moments at the resort. What followed is a narrative still playing out in the national headlines: the Republican Party blocked President Barack Obama's nominee Merrick Garland from a court hearing, holding the seat open for the last 11 months of Obama's term. Donald Trump wins the presidency and picks conservative Neil Gorsuch for Scalia's spot. Now, Anthony Kennedy's resignation gave Trump a shot at filling another seat and replacing the lone swing vote on the court. □

Chris Pratt on running on screen, Tom Cruise, religion

By RYAN PEARSON

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Chris Pratt is running his fastest, he has a tendency to fall.

The "Guardians of the Galaxy" and "Jurassic World" star broke a femur growth plate as a kid, leaving him less than confident in his sprinting abilities — and a bit self-conscious about some action scenes.

"My leg grew in a little funny. So when I run, I run a little crooked. And if I run at top speed, there's a high likelihood I will fall down," he said. "My high school football highlight tape was all just images of me falling down midfield, like I just tripped over my shoe laces or something. So that's always a little bit of a concern for me."

Pratt discussed running in an interview with The Associated Press after meeting at a bar with seven athletes with disabilities, part of the nonprofit group Achilles International. He surprised them with the news that they're being sponsored in the New York City Marathon by Michelob Ultra. The 39-year-old actor, a spokesman for the beer brand, talked to AP about his passion for fitness, his religion, and his admiration for Tom Cruise. The following remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

AP: What do you get out of meeting people like this?



This Aug. 14, 2018 image taken from video shows actor Chris Pratt during an interview at the Fellow Bar in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Pratt: Fitness is a lifestyle. And I think it's a great common denominator. So you can sit me down with anybody if they have that portion of their life. We always have something in common. That makes this brand a good fit for me and makes this type of experience with Achilles International a really good fit for me. It's hard enough to do a marathon or to do a triathlon. But to do it when you have physical limitations and disabilities, it's pretty awe-inspiring.

AP: What the fitness routine when you're at the farm?

Pratt: At the farm (Pratt's property in the San Juan Is-

lands off the coast of Washington state), there is actually a fitness club in town. So I go there. But I do a lot of biking and running there, and ocean swimming. ... For me, it really clears my mind. Sound body, sound mind. I'm an actor so I don't have that kind of job I can just shut my mind off and do physical labor. I think that's what I was probably genetically made for, you know? I should be moving refrigerators or something. But now I'm doing a job that really isn't that physically demanding. So having something that I can just shut my mind off and

do physically every day is good for me.

AP: Running on screen, who is your top person for that? Pratt: Oh, Tom Cruise. "Mission: Impossible" — he ran across London, across bridges, over buildings. Yeah, Tom is a great runner. He did all his own jumping, he was flying the helicopter, he really was like — oh, if there's a question of whether or not I'm the best at this, let me put that question to bed. He's the best.

AP: Is that a career goal, to be able to be doing that kind of thing when you're 50-plus?

Pratt: One of the career

goals that I have based on Tom Cruise is his reputation as being a really nice, positive guy who works hard. I've never actually met him, but I would like — if you're going to leave a legacy, it'd be nice to have it be that people thought you were nice and easy to work with and you worked hard. I think that's pretty cool.

AP: At recent awards show appearances, you went out on stage and talked publicly about your faith. Is it an especially important time to do that?

Pratt: I don't know that I am so much more motivated by where the world is or if it's just what I'm feeling called to do right now. I think it's a combination of both things. ... That kind of a message, it might not be for everybody. But there is a group of people for whom that message is designed. And nothing fills my soul more than to think that maybe some kid watching that would say, "Hey, I've been thinking about that. I've been thinking about praying. Let me try that out." That's like the only way I feel like I can repay what has essentially been a giant gift in my life.

AP: Does it feel like a risk sometimes in Hollywood?

Pratt: No, not at all. ... I think that there's this narrative that exists out there that Hollywood is anti-Christian or anti-religious, but it's just not the case. □

Franco-Egyptian actor Gamil Ratib dies at 92



In this July 12, 2015 file photo, actor Gamil Ratib, attends a funeral in Cairo, Egypt.

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Gamil Ratib, an award-winning Franco-Egyptian actor whose roles as villain or aristocrat made him a household name across the Arab world, died Wednesday, state media reported. He was 92.

Ratib's acting career — he appeared in about 100 films in both French and Arabic — began as early as the 1940s in Cairo when he landed a role in an Arabic adaptation of "The Three Musketeers." His scenes, however, were removed because his parents ob-

jected to him taking up acting.

Ratib, who died of an unspecified illness in a Cairo hospital, later traveled to study law and economics in Paris, but that did not make him abandon his passion for acting. He joined the storied "Comédie Française" before his big break came when he was cast in the American movie "Trapeze" (1956) along with Hollywood stars Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis.

His career took a giant leap forward when six years later

he played an Arab named Majid in the 1962 classic "Lawrence of Arabia."

Meanwhile, 1967's "Peau d'Espion" led to him being awarded the Legion d'Honneur de Grade de Chevalier.

Ratib returned to his native Egypt in the 1970s when his leading roles in hit movies and TV dramas earned him celebrity status across the Arab world. His roles were mostly the lovable villain or the pompous aristocrat who is contemptuous of the poor and ignorant. □

Newcomers bring decaying Kentucky distillery back to life

By **BRUCE SCHREINER**

MILLVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The whiskey quit flowing decades ago from a landmark Kentucky distillery housed in a picturesque castle. Nearly a half-century of neglect reduced the one-time tourist draw to a decaying relic.

Now, two newcomers to the whiskey business have resurrected the Old Taylor distillery and renamed it. And along with bourbon and rye, they hope once again to generate tourism. Will Arvin and Wes Murry saw potential where others perceived only blight. In the past four years they've spent millions to restore the old glory of the castle-like entrance, sunken garden and colonnaded springhouse.

"The spirit of the place really called to us," Arvin said. "The bones of the building were solid. And we could just see through the decay and the brush to know that this place really needed to be brought back and saved as an iconic place." Renamed Castle & Key Distillery, the facility resumed spirits production in late 2016 — the first year whiskey was produced there since the distillery shuttered in 1972.

On Wednesday, the grounds reopened to visitors.

Arvin and Murry are following in the footsteps of the distillery's founder, Col. E.H. Taylor. A bourbon giant of his time, he built the Old



This Friday, Sept. 14, 2018 photo, shows the exterior of the Old Taylor distillery's towering limestone castle which underwent a massive rehabilitation after decades of neglect and was renamed Castle & Key Distillery, in Millville, Ky.

Taylor distillery in the late 1880s and made it a forerunner of today's bourbon tourism business. Ownership eventually passed to National Distillers, and production ended during a lean time for bourbon producers.

Now bourbon sales are booming again, and the new owners are preparing bourbon and rye whiskey to hit the market under the Castle & Key label. The brown spirits are still maturing in barrels nestled in the distillery's warehouses. Master distiller Marianne Eaves

hopes rye can make its debut in about a year, and says the brand's bourbon could be ready in 2021.

"We're letting flavor drive the decision on the release date," she said.

Murry said they hope to turn a marginal profit within a couple of years. In the meantime, the owners have found other ways to generate income. The brand's vodka and gin reached store shelves in April. The distillery also produces bourbon and rye on contract for several corporate customers.

Tourism should help the bottom line, especially if the iconic facility joins the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Kentucky Distillers' Association President Eric Gregory is among those predicting tourism success for Castle & Key. The central Kentucky distillery between Frankfort and Versailles sits a few miles from the Woodford Reserve and Buffalo Trace distilleries.

"It will be one of the most visited bourbon tourism sites in Kentucky — quickly," Gregory said.

Bill Samuels Jr., who retired after a long career as top executive at Maker's Mark, remembers admiring the

castle-like distillery on a boyhood trip with his father. As years passed and the decay took its toll, he wondered if it would ever return. Twenty-five years ago, there was exciting talk of a restoration — but it came to nothing. Finally, he said, "we just gave up, thinking this will never happen." Enter Arvin and Murry. Looking to become a distillery owner and tap into bourbon's resurgence, Arvin discovered the Old Taylor site on the internet. A mutual friend connected him with Murry, 40, who was look-

ing for an entrepreneurial venture. They paid about \$950,000 for the distillery in 2014. Restoring it took longer and cost more than expected, and it meant career changes. Arvin, 51, left a law career behind; Murry worked in finance.

The enormity of the renovation would have driven many to drink. Most of the windows were boarded up. One storage warehouse had collapsed. Roofs were failing. The grounds were a jungle of weeds.

"You only walked where animals had beaten a path," Murry said. "That was how you got around."

Gregory, who trudged through the thicket with Arvin during an early visit, said, "You were expecting some ghost at any moment ... because it was just so overgrown and so abandoned."

Eaves, 31, was a rising star during her time at Brown-Forman Corp., whose products include Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey and Woodford Reserve bourbon. She was drawn by the Old Taylor site and the new owners' ambitious plans to revive it. Creating the Castle & Key spirits lineup as master distiller seemed a "once in a lifetime opportunity" when she signed on in early 2015. Soon, though, the size of the challenge became apparent — and that was long before whiskey was mentioned as a tariff target in an international trade war. □

Associated Press



In this Friday, Sept. 14, 2018 photo, bottles of gin produced at Castle & Key Distillery are displayed for sale at the distillery's gift shop in Millville, Ky.

Associated Press



In this Friday, Sept. 14, 2018 photo, master distiller Marianne Eaves, center, is flanked by co-owners Will Arvin, right, and Wes Murry, while posing in a barrel warehouse Castle & Key Distillery in Millville, Ky.

Associated Press